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BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LIII

JANUARY 1, 1975

NO. 1

"For the faith once for all delivered to the saints."

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and
Scriptural in practice.

OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all
the world and preach the gospel.

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

THRESHOLD OF A NEW YEAR

'Tis a moment of deep meditation
As I stand at the gate of the year,
And seek to fathom the future
With a hope that is mingled with fear.

What varied experiences await me,
What changes for good or for ill,
I listen in vain for an answer,
The future is silent and still.

Will the strength of my heart be sufficient,
For the trials I know I must face?
Shall I come a victor triumphant,
Or miserably fail in the race?

The year that is past had its shadows,
And so no doubt, will the new;
But the love of the heart is eternal
And God forever is true.

Forgetting the failures behind me,
And girding with patience my soul,
I look toward the prize that awaits me,
And joyously press toward the goal.

— Author Unknown

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Again we come to the time in which we traditionally think of the present, the past, and the future. The present is with us today and we should make the most of it. As the psalmist has said, "This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it." Psalm 118:24.

There is little we can do about the past except reflect on its errors and failures and determine in our hearts and minds to live more closely to the lamp of God's Word.

As we look to the future it would be easy to assume a gloomy attitude. We look about us and we see much strife, discontent, and confusion. It is unsafe to be on the streets at night. We frequently hear of law officers being shot. All of these things cause us to believe that the perilous times spoken of in the Word are coming upon us, or soon shall. Also, the number of broken homes in the land are a disgrace to this country.

Still, there is much that we can do in contributing to a Happy New Year. Much depends upon our attitude of mind. Real as some of these things are, we can still look on the brighter side of life. There is still much of love and joy and goodness. We are reminded of Philippians 4:8, "Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things."

We should maintain a spirit of hope. There is always an attitude of hoping for the best. In Hebrews 6:19 the Word speaks of hope as being an anchor of the soul, "both sure and steadfast." Such an hope should cheer us to meet the future.

We should have an unfaltering faith and trust in God. We should remember that our God is still on the Throne. Perhaps we are too likely to forget that He is omnipresent, omnipotent, and omniscient. Perhaps we are too much like Peter when he undertook to walk on the water. As he saw the waves about him he became fearful and began to sink. We look about us and see "evil men and seducers" about us "deceiving and being deceived." Trials and persecutions have been the lot of God's people down through the ages. But we are no better than they and we have the same God to rely upon. Trusting in Him we can face the future with hope and courage.

We must maintain a spirit of love as we face the future. There is much hatred and ill will in the world today. Let us keep up a spirit of love in our homes and churches as well as with those whom we meet in our daily contacts with our fellowmen.

May the Lord grant a happy and blessed New Year to all.

SOWING AND REAPING

Part 1

Sowing and reaping is truly a part of the Christian life. This is the mission of the church. This is the purpose of the church being established in the world. But there is another side of this that we would take up this afternoon. Until, we ourselves, are firm believers in the very Word of God, until we are willing to be an humble people, obedient people, and scriptural people in our daily living, we are not fit missionaries. What do you think about this? Do you think it makes any difference? People are very free to express their mind concerning the Word of God. People are very free to express their opinions of the church, but I believe that we are living in a time when people are turning towards liberalism. The fundamental truths of God's Word are not in demand anymore. Still, we say we are Christian people. We must make up our mind that unless we are going to stand by the fundamental doctrine and the principles of the Word of God, the church will not remain His church. The church will falter and the church will fail. You and I will fail as individuals and the harvest is coming. What do you think it is going to be? What do you think it will bring?

As we go forth in the natural life we know that there is a time of sowing. We know there is a time of reaping. We all understand that. No one will question these statements. But I tell you this afternoon, that we want to think in terms of the spiritual side of it. There is also a time of sowing and a time of reaping. You and I in this life are in the sowing process, right today. Everyone of us will reap a harvest. It is coming just

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as sure as the soybeans get ripe, just as sure as the corn matures in the field, just so sure you and I are moving toward a time of harvest. We will be judged according to the deeds done in the body. What will the harvest be? "Whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap." You can't cheat the harvest no matter what you do. If we want to be honest about it, we can know what the harvest will be if we review our life as we should. I believe that everyone of us knows what our mind is toward the Word of God. I believe we all know what we think of the church. I believe we all know what we think of the fundamental doctrines of the Word. If we are honest about it, we can know what the harvest will be.

We were studying this morning about the scribes and Pharisees. Those hypocritical characters, who lived in the day Jesus lived on this earth. He asked them "how can ye escape the damnation of hell?" I don't know what you think, but I know what I believe and the Bible teaches it this way -- that a hypocritical life whether in that day or this day is going to bring the same results. I believe it with all my heart. The Bible says that the hypocrite shall have his portion in the lake of fire. Do you believe that? That is harvest, isn't it? So if I am living a lie, if I am living hypocritically and go on in this condition, I know what the harvest is going to be. No one needs to tell me. I believe it is time for us to get down to business and face up to what our life really is, and to think about the end. Think about the harvest. There is no use kidding ourselves. There is no use in trying to make ourselves believe that as long as we stay a member of the church we can still go out and do as we please and everything will be fine. There is no point in this. We might retain our standing in the church, we might be in the pulpit, we might be some place else, but we will still be a hypocrite. A hypocrite is not in a saved relationship with Almighty God. You may be a preacher or hold some other position in the church, but it will make no difference to God in the day of judgement. What will the harvest be for you, for me, for everyone else?

Jesus taught only two ways of life. "Enter ye in at the strait gate; for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it." Matthew 7:13-14. Only two ways of life with a different destiny at the end. We either reap a harvest of eternal life or a harvest of eternal damnation. It all depends upon which road we are walking on. Right here is a place where the devil has stepped in and deceived many. Satan has gotten people to believe there is a third way which is a safe road to travel on. The religious world in their own mind have set up a road that is not the strait and narrow way, but still claim that it is not the broad way, either. There is no Scripture for this. The Bible does say that there is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.

It doesn't make me any difference for the broad road is still the broad road. If a church member is on this broad road the result is going to be the same. We should believe this and understand it and know where this road leads. Satan has been cunning. He has been deceptive and he has gotten people all mixed up concerning the Word of God, the Church, and the purpose of the Christian life. People are so mixed up that they don't know where they are walking. They don't want to be too strict. They don't want to be too liberal, but they want to be somewhere in between and the first thing we know we are on a way that is going to lead to death. That is what the Devil wants. If old Satan can blind us to the point that we don't know where we are going, and care less, he has won the victory.

People really don't care anymore which road they take. Even people who have been raised in Christian homes. They couldn't care less about their living. They are not thinking about the harvest or about the end. Many so-called believers will ignore portions of the Bible, taking away the fundamental teachings and still try to convince men that everything is fine. They will take away the things that are vital and necessary to the Christian life and will tell people that everything is alright. "Don't get excited," they say, "we are safe." No wonder the Word says hell has enlarged herself. Yes, the broad road leads to destruction, whether it is church people walking on it or someone else. If you and I don't live as the Word of God teaches us, how can we say that we are walking on the strait and narrow way? How can we maintain that we are the people of God when we do not obey the things that the Bible teaches us? The Bible does tell us that men will get into a condition of life where they will believe lies. God will give them over to a reprobate mind. God will send them strong delusions. What do you think the harvest will be for such a people?

"Whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap." This has been proven over and over again in the Word of God. Our brother referred this morning to Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. Their actions prove our text. They were in a sowing process. They fell victim to the deceitfulness of Satan in the form of a serpent. They disobeyed the commandments of God. I believe they reaped a harvest for that. They paid the price for their transgression; we also will pay the price as well for any transgression that we commit. The commandments given to them were not hard. God had told them that they could have free access to the garden with one exception. They were not to eat of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, yet, that was the very thing that they did. We know the results; they were driven out of the garden. Death passed on all men and could be removed only by Christ. The harvest came; the penalty was accepted. We may say we don't understand why they were so foolish that

they allowed themselves to be misled and deceived by the devil. What do you think you would have done had you been there ? All we need to do is doubt God's Word and see if we are not doing this today and we get the answer.

We have restrictions today. We are not living in the Garden of Eden as they were. We are not dealing with the tree of knowledge of good and evil literally here upon this earth, but we have restrictions in God's Word just as binding as those requirements. Do you think we are free from the temptation to disobey and violate those restrictions? Are we living in full obedience to the things that God has asked of us?

The Bible says, "Come out from among them, and be ye separate, sayeth the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you." That is a command of God; that is a restriction; that gives us a guideline. How many of us are doing this to the best of our abilities? Do we believe in the doctrine of separation of the world? Do we believe it as we should? Do we believe it as the church used to believe it? Have we tempered or watered down our thinking to the place where we believe that a little of the world in the church will not hurt a thing? What do you think about it? Do we hear the doctrine of separation from the world as it one time was? Do we take it seriously? Do we think it makes any difference today? This is a commandment of God that has to do with the way we live. A command that has to deal with our soul's eternal destiny and how reckless we become. It is not popular to talk about separation; that doctrine is too old-fashioned. People want something lighter, something more modern. The doctrine of separation, sad to say, is being ignored. It is being overlooked. It is cast into a corner some place and we by-pass it and talk about something that people like to hear.

The church as Jesus established it was intended to be separate in manner to the ways of the world. It was to be separate from the evils and impurities of the world. The Bible teaches us that the church should be pure, holy, without blemish, and without spot and wrinkle. Is this what we believe as a people today? Do you think it makes any difference if we get more worldly? Do you think it is going to have any bearing on your harvest and my harvest? What do you teach your children in regards to separation and the position of the church on separation? Do you teach your children that it makes a difference or do you teach them that it doesn't matter? Maybe you say that the church is just a little old-fashioned and they don't know what they are talking about, anyhow, don't take it too seriously. We can't deny that there is more world in the church than there was two years ago. Do we think it makes any difference? Has the church become more spiritual because of this? Does the church have a stronger witness in the world? Is it easier to go out and bring souls into the kingdom? Just what has the results been under

present conditions? Will the church be just a social affair with the fundamental teaching of God's Word forgotten? Oh, we are so afraid, we get almost panicky when we hear very much about separation from the world. We don't seem to get much excited when the world comes in the church. Souls drift along aimlessly and carelessly and preachers go on preaching fine sermons and we go on patting the world on the back, so to speak. There will still be a harvest; we can't cheat a harvest.

Titus 2:12 reads, "Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world." The Bible does not say that you can do that if you feel like it, but it says that we should do this. I've said over and over again we are not nearly as serious about living as we should be. We just don't take life as seriously as we should, speaking in a general way. The Bible even condemns foolish talking and jesting, which are not convenient. Don't you know that people are happy when the foolish stuff is going on? It hurts me when I realize that often preachers become the life of the party when they are invited to some social gathering. People feel good when the officials are on their own level and everything is fine and dandy. I don't think that kind of witness is good for the church. I believe leaders are supposed to lead. Leaders are supposed to set examples of holiness and sobriety. I believe they are. I don't mean we can never have a smile on our face. I don't mean to say that. But there is a limit to what our foolishness should run to. There should be a limit. There is a restriction upon the people of God in this realm. Do you think it makes any difference?

"Be not conformed to this world, but be ye transformed by the renewing of your minds." These are restrictions that God has placed upon us; these are rules that we are to live by. Do you think it makes any difference whether you live by them or not? Do you think it has any bearing on the harvest? What will the harvest be if we just simply ignore these things? If we just simply write them out of our mind and out of our life? Some tell us that we must mingle more with the world; we must not build a fence around the church. We must be more out-going, be a little more free to mingle. You know, that we can let our mingling take a wrong course. I have said it before and I believe it is true that we can never bring the world up to the level of the church by lowering the church down to the level of the world. No, indeed! We cannot do it that way! When we begin to lower our own standards down to where they scoop the world, I'm going to tell you right now the devil has won the victory and not the church. But, I'm afraid that is what's happening. How fundamental will the church of tomorrow be? I say that we must bring the world up to the level of the church. Don't lower the church down to the level of the world. That would be a sad harvest, indeed.

In the days of Noah, the people were living in sin and wickedness and

putting it in plain words, God got sick and tired of it. He destroyed this earth with a flood of water. These people were living in moral decay and carnal pleasure. They were having a good time; they were sowing seed and they reaped a harvest, too. Outside of Noah and his household, they were all destroyed in a flood of water. The Bible gives us warning, "As it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man." Do you believe that you can be found in the same condition of life as were those in the days of Noah and still be saved? Do you believe you can go out and live in sin and still be in God's care, and still be in the church, the ark of safety? I believe that this nation in all of its sinfulness and wickedness, will reap a harvest that will be beyond description. I wonder what we as a church think about it?

The Bible says that the people knew not until the flood came and took them all away. They didn't have any use for Noah. I suppose they thought he was a little bit out of his mind and had lost his bearings as he was building the ark according to the commandments of God. But I believe that when those waters began to rise, those people were taking a second look at the situation. They would have given everything they possessed to be able to get inside where it was safe. But the door of that ark was shut by the hand of God. There was no more chance to get inside the ark of safety. The time was past. There was no entrance. If you are here this afternoon, outside the church, not within the ark of safety, some day that door of salvation is going to be closed. Do you think it is going to make any difference? Maybe you are one of those individuals that can get along without the church. My friend, if that is the way you feel and if you continue to feel this way, the day will come when you will then see the value of the church and wish that you could be on the inside. Maybe there are those who had been in the church, and today are not, and you feel that you can live just as good outside, let me tell you the day will come when you will see the value of the church, and the value of living according to the Word of God. Some day the harvest is going to roll around. What will the harvest be for you?

— Brother Dean St. John, Harvest Meeting, 1974

Selected by Sister Maxine Surbey



The best safeguard for the younger generation is a good example by the older generation.



WATCHING OUR WORDS

Two brothers sat experimenting with the cassette tape recorder. How much fun it was to record a bit of music and then play it back! Or to recite a piece and listen to their own voices!

All the while a plan was forming in James' mind. Cautiously he began teasing Paul and gradually increased the momentum. Eventually he received the response he was looking for -- an outburst of not-too-kind words from his brother. Unknown to Paul, these words were recorded and saved for the appropriate moment to play back. And they didn't sound very good -- even to the one who had said them.

After James had been outside playing for awhile, Paul was noticed putting away the recorder. "There, I've taken off all the bad words," he exclaimed triumphantly.

What he didn't count on was that, although the recording no longer could be played, Someone still had a record of the words he had spoken.

Wouldn't it be nice if we could simply erase some of the things we have said? But it isn't that easy! Our words are gone. We have no more control over them. They have gone on their way to hurt and wound.

Our Heavenly Father knows what we have said, and there is only one way in which He can erase His record. Only as we confess our sins can we have the assurance that He has "blotted out, as a thick cloud (our) transgressions, and, as a cloud, (our) sins" (Isaiah 44:22).

Let us start the New Year by praying the psalmist's prayer: "Set a watch, O Lord, before my mouth; keep the door of my lips" (141:3).

— The Prairie Overcomer



ANSWERED PRAYERS

Part 6

The God to whom we pray is an all-seeing, all-knowing, and ever present God. He is the God of the living. He is much different than the gods of idolatrous worshipers. They can neither hear nor answer prayers. Our God can do both.

There are times when people find themselves in peculiar circumstances under which they are prompted to pray. It may be in a pit. It may be in an airplane in trouble. It might be behind the wheel of an automobile. It might be on the operating table. It can be anywhere.

We have a beautiful lesson on answered prayers in the life of Jonah. Jonah was the son of Amittai, a Galilean.

God commanded Jonah to go to Nineveh to cry against their wicked-

ness, which came up to God. He wanted Jonah to warn the Ninevites. God gave him a command, which He intended Jonah to carry out.

Jonah had other ideas. Instead of obeying God and going to Nineveh, he fled to Joppa and took ship for Tarshish. Jonah 1:3 states, "So he paid the fare thereof, and went down into it, to go with them unto Tarshish from the presence of the Lord."

Apparently Jonah forgot or overlooked the fact that God has an all-seeing eye and knows everything. Though Jonah went down into the ship, attempting to flee from God, God knew exactly where he was and what his intentions were. God knows where we are and what we are doing and what we are thinking.

When we try to run from God, we run into trouble. Jonah did. God sent a great tempest upon the sea. The mariners were greatly frightened and each prayed to his God. While they were frightened and praying, Jonah was asleep in the hold of the ship.

The pilot awakened Jonah. They thought any minute the ship would be wrecked. They sensed something unusual was taking place. They threw their cargo overboard to lighten the ship. They did something else. They cast lots to determine the cause of the storm and the danger they were in. The lot pointed to Jonah. They inquired who he was and what he had done to bring on such a storm. People bring great storms upon themselves because they refuse to do what God commands.

Jonah was frank with them. He told them he was a Hebrew, that he worshipped God, that he was one of His prophets and that he was fleeing from God's presence to avoid going to Nineveh.

They believed Jonah to be the cause of their trouble and asked him what should be done to save them from the storm. He was not hesitant in replying. Jonah 1:12 "And he said unto them, Take me up, and cast me forth into the sea; so shall the sea be calm unto you: for I know that for my sake this great tempest is upon you."

How did Jonah know? He knew for the same reason that any of us know when we disobey God. We know if we are obeying God and if we are true to our baptismal vows. He knew he was not. Individuals today know if they are true or if they are untrue to God.

It was no easy decision for these men to make to cast Jonah overboard. The men rowed hard to reach the land, but the storm was too great. The tempest was against them.

Jonah 1:15, "So they took up Jonah, and cast him forth into the sea; and the sea ceased from her raging."

This was working out according to the Lord's will. He was performing a miracle to the benefit of Jonah, although Jonah was unaware of it.

When Jonah was cast into the water, a large fish which God had prepared for this purpose swallowed Jonah. Jonah, in the fish's belly

three days, was aware that he was in an unusual situation. In the meantime the sea was quiet. The mariners were safe and perhaps continued on their way to Tarshish. They knew their destination. Jonah did not.

I believe Jonah did some very serious thinking. He did not go where God commanded. He was not going to get to Tarshish where he planned to go. He was deep inside this great fish, which was swimming in the depths of the sea. What was he to do? He did just like others who have realized their helplessness. He prayed! What a peculiar place to pray -- in a fish's belly and under water -- a very unusual altar!

In the fish's belly, Jonah prayed unto God. I believe God was rather waiting for that prayer. I believe he expected to receive Jonah's prayer. How much better it would have been if Jonah would have obeyed God and escaped the fish's belly. But, he disobeyed God and this was God's method to teach him a lesson.

While this was a very unusual place to pray, God heard and answered his prayer. Jonah 2:10, "And the Lord spake unto the fish, and it vomited out Jonah upon the dry land."

His prayer was answered. The second time God told Jonah to go to Nineveh, Jonah went. Shouldn't each of us, when our prayers are answered, be obedient to God?

— Brother Paul R. Myers
Box 117, Greentown, Ohio 44630



All I have seen teaches me to trust the Creator for all I have not seen.

Those who do Christlike deeds know Christlike joy.

No cloud can overshadow a true Christian, but his faith will discern a rainbow in it.

Not as men of science, not as critics, not as philosophers, but as little children, shall we enter into the kingdom of heaven.

Not all demons or devils come to us as serpents or as roaring lions, some come as angels of light. If one gets in he will keep the heart door open to let in others.



CHILDRENS PAGE

CORN IN EGYPT

Gen. 42:1-20

There was a famine in the land. Do you know what a famine is? It is when the land does not grow enough for the people to eat. It is caused by the lack of rain and everything gets dry and the days are hot. When the wind blows it is so hot that it scorches and dries up every green thing. God had revealed to Joseph that there would be seven years of plenty and after that they would have seven years of famine. Joseph was a wise man and when Pharaoh made him ruler over Egypt, he had great storehouses built and he stored corn in the years of plenty so that the people would not go hungry during the seven years of famine.

Joseph's father, Jacob, lived in the land of Canaan and the famine was in Canaan too. Jacob heard that there was corn in Egypt so he sent ten of his sons to go down in Egypt to buy corn. Jacob had another son, called Benjamin, who was Joseph's full brother and he was young. Jacob did not want to send Benjamin because he feared something might happen to him. He supposed that Joseph was dead and didn't want to take a chance on losing the only son left of his favorite wife, Rachel. Jacob had twelve sons, in all, who were to become the twelve tribes of the children of Israel (Jacob).

So Jacob's ten sons came to Egypt. Joseph was the governor over all the land of Egypt and when anyone came to buy corn they had to go before Joseph and buy from him. Joseph had the authority to sell the corn or to refuse to sell. Jacob's sons came before Joseph, bowing before him. They didn't know it was their brother who they had sold as a slave. When Joseph saw his brothers he knew them at once. As a governor Joseph would be dressed as an Egyptian prince in fine clothes of linen and a gold chain upon his neck. He spoke roughly unto his brothers and said, "From where do you come?"

And his brothers replied, "From the land of Canaan to buy corn."

But Joseph remembered the dream that all his brothers would bow down to him and he said, "To see how bad the famine is in Egypt is the reason you came."

"No that isn't true," they said, "We are all one man's sons; we are true men. We are not spies. There were twelve of us but one is dead and the youngest is at home with our father."

Joseph had his ten brothers put in prison for three days and then he said to them, "Send one of you to get your youngest brother. Because I fear God I'll give you a chance to prove if you speak the truth or not."

Joseph's brethren had committed a crime when they sold their brother. Now they were going to answer for that foul deed. Can we not apply this to ourselves? Are we always as true to God as we should be? There will come a time when we will have to give an account of ourselves before God, even for every idle word.

— Brother Rudy Cover

OBITUARIES

SARAH LUCINDA COOK

Infant daughter of Brother Milton and Sister Marilyn (Moss) Cook was born October 14, 1974, at Banning, California and departed this life on October 16, 1974, at Loma Linda, California.

Besides the parents she is survived by one sister, Susan; the grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Arlo Cook, Tucson, Arizona, Sister Beulah Moss, Dallas Center, Iowa; the great-grandparents, Brother and Sister Elwin Cook, Montpelier, Ohio; Mrs. Grace Ansley, Tucson, Arizona; Brother Josiah Flora, Dallas Center, Iowa; and Sister Viola Moss, New Madison, Ohio.

Graveside services were conducted October 18, 1974, by Elder Ora Skiles, interment was in Mountain View Cemetery, Beaumont, California.



RALPH WOODWARD

Son of James and Catherine Woodward, was born in Williams County, Ohio, February 4, 1885, and departed this life October 25, 1974, at the age of 89 years, 8 months, and 21 days.

Ralph came to Kansas with his parents from Stryker, Ohio, in 1901.

He married Martha Eby on October 16, 1919. They moved to Quinter in 1925, where he resided until his death.

He spent a large share of his life carpentering and farming. In his later years he enjoyed his garden and flowers.

He was a member of the Dunkard Brethren Church at Quinter. He was a quiet man devoted to his Lord and found much enjoyment in church attendance.

He is survived by his wife, Martha; their son, Earl of Galen, Colorado; and five grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted at the Quinter Dunkard Brethren Church, with Elder Dale Jamison officiating.



NEWS ITEMS

QUINTER, KANSAS

Elder Paul Reed came into our midst for ten days of revival meetings from November 6 to November 17. He gave us inspiring messages which challenged sinners to repent and receive Jesus as their Saviour. The messages also challenged Christians to live better lives, more devoted to Christ rather than the world. As a result two young souls received Christ into their hearts. We pray they will always be faithful.

We had the largest attendance for a long time at the Lovefeast. We were glad for the presence of Brother and Sister Roy Swihart for the last week of services. Other ministers present were Brethren Emery Wertz, W.C. Smith, Joseph Flora, Will Root, and David Skiles. We appreciated the help of each one.

We are more determined than ever to walk closer to our Lord so He will find us faithful when He comes to take us to Himself.

— Sister Ethel Whitmer, Cor.

GRANDVIEW, MISSOURI

Elder Hayes Reed of Modesto, California, came into our midst and held a one week meeting, from July 28 to August 4. Brother Reed did not shun to preach the Word of God to us.

We were especially glad for the visitors that attended during the week. The presence of those from other congregations for our Lovefeast service on Saturday evening, August 3, was appreciated very much.

Although no additions were made to the church at this time, the following week a dear young girl made her wants known to come into the fold, and was baptized the following Sunday. May the seed sown continue to grow and bear fruit.

May we all go forth with a greater determination, during the coming year, to live closer to God is our prayer.

— Sister Bertha Jarboe, Cor.

WAYNESBORO, PENNSYLVANIA

In September, Elder Paul Reed of Virginia, came into our midst for a two weeks revival meeting. He preached many inspiring sermons from

God's Word. May we take to heart what we have heard. Let us remember Brother Reed in our prayers as he continues to preach the Word of God.

Our Lovefeast was on October 13. We were glad for the visiting ministers throughout the day. Much admonition for the Christian walk of life was given.

We again met for worship on Thanksgiving day with a good attendance. Brother Jack Snyder brought the message, using Psalm 88:12. "Shall thy wonders be known in the dark? And thy righteousness in the land of forgetfulness?" He brought many thoughts how we as a people of America with everything so plentiful are so forgetful in giving God thanks as we should. We know not how soon these bountiful blessings may be withheld from us.

— Sister Elizabeth Wisler, Cor.

NOTE OF THANKS

We wish to thank the Brethren, Sisters, friends and relatives for their prayers and many kindnesses during our time of sorrow. May God richly bless everyone of you.

— Brother and Sister Milton Cook and Susan



Prayer crowns God with honor and glory due to His name, and God crowns prayer with assurance and comfort. The most praying souls are the most assured souls.

The Gospel breaks hard hearts, and heals broken hearts. God will accept the broken hearts, but He must have all the pieces.

All the way from earth to glory the Christian pathway is a way of choice. It never becomes compulsory.

After all it is not what is around us, but what is in us; not what we have, but what we are, that makes us really happy.



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BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LIII

JANUARY 15, 1975

NO. 2

"For the faith once for all delivered to the saints."

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and
Scriptural in practice.

OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all
the world and preach the gospel.

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

"SEEK YE FIRST THE KINGDOM OF GOD"

Life is a mixture of sunshine and rain,
Good things and bad things, pleasure and pain,
We can't have all sunshine, but it's certainly true
There is never a cloud the sun doesn't shine through...
So always remember that whatever betide you
The power of God is always beside you,
And if friends disappoint you and plans go astray
And nothing works out in just the right way,
And you feel you have failed in achieving your goal,
And that life wrongly placed you in an unfitting role,
Take heart and "stand tall" and think who you are,
For God is your Father and no one can bar
Or keep you from reaching your desired success,
Or withhold the joy that is yours to possess...
For with God on your side it matters not who
Is working to keep life's good things from you,
For you need nothing more than God's guidance and love
To insure you the things that you're most worthy of...
So trust in His wisdom and follow His ways,
And be not concerned with the world's empty praise,
But seek first His Kingdom and you will possess
The world's greatest riches which is true happiness.

— Helen Steiner Rice

THE PRODIGAL SON

In the parable of the prodigal son we see the younger son had a desire to see the world. Consequently, he asked the father for his portion of goods and he set out to see the world. On the other hand, the older of the two sons was willing to stay with his father and help him.

This shows the different characteristics of man. The older son appears to be solid, perhaps austere, but the younger son was impulsive, and impatient of restraint.

Let us notice the manner in which the younger son approached his father. "Father, give me the portion of goods that falleth to me." He didn't say, "Please, father," but give me now that which is due me. Obviously, he wanted liberty to do as he pleased. But let us consider -- is not such liberty the worst kind of slavery? It wasn't long until he was bound by the cords of his own lust. He wanted to get away from his father's eye. He probably didn't like his father's management.

We cannot help but notice the father's kindly attitude. Soon after that the "son gathered all together, and took his journey into a far country, and wasted his substance with riotous living." A sinful state is a departure from God and sinners want to get as far from God as possible as did Adam and Eve.

A sinful state is a spending state. No doubt, as long as the wayward son had money, he would have friends. As in our day, it takes a lot of meat and drink and plenty of entertainment to satisfy people.

A sinful state is also a wanting state. Riotous living will soon bring bad times, especially if no provision is made for those times. A sinful state is one of dissatisfaction. Entertainment and sensual pleasures may satisfy the lusts of the flesh, but can never satisfy the needs of a soul. A sinful state is one which can't expect help or relief from any creature. The son took to begging but "no man gave to him." A sinful state is one of death -

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- dead in trespasses and sins, destitute of spiritual life. He came to a state of madness for it says "he came to himself."

Without money, without friends, and almost perishing with hunger, he came to his lowest extremity. He remembered his father's servants who had bread enough and to spare while he was almost starving. I imagine the father looked down the road many times, hoping to see his son coming home. At last, the father saw his son coming home. What joy when a wayward son or daughter comes home! The son acknowledged his sins against heaven and his father. Those who live in pleasure are dead even while they live.

How is it with you? Are you dead unto sin, but alive through Jesus Christ our Lord?



SOWING AND REAPING

Part 2

The children of Israel cried unto the Lord as they were suffering in bondage in the land of Egypt. God gave them deliverance by the hand of Moses and he promised to take them to a land of promise, a land that flowed with milk and honey. They had a wonderful opportunity to go out of bondage into that liberty, into the freedom that they so much desired. But it wasn't long until they began to murmur and to wish that they were back in Egypt where they had all the food that they wanted to eat. They accused Moses of bringing them out to die in the wilderness. They longed for the flesh pots of Egypt. That is just like a lot of church people. They are looking out in the world and wishing to go back. What kind of harvest is that going to bring?

What can the world give to you that will guarantee you anything of value? The devil will take us off our guard if we are not very careful. Any of us are subject to the deception of Satan and we need to be careful. It does make a difference how we live. It does make a difference when we sow seeds of evil doing. The harvest came to the children of Israel. They died in the wilderness not because they had to, for the journey from Egypt to Canaan was not too far to be made in a life time. They would not have had to spend all those years in wandering. The Bible says they entered not in because of unbelief. That is why they perished in the wilderness. They did not take God at His Word. Because they did not humble themselves to follow God as they should have done and with the exception of those two, Joshua and Caleb, they perished in the wilderness. The Bible says, "Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief."

Why didn't the children of Israel follow along faithfully when they saw how God had blessed them? Why did they act so foolishly? What would you have done? What are you doing today? Look what Jesus has done for us. When God has provided many blessings for his people and established the church as a soul-saving station, why are so many of us dabbling around out in the world instead of following Him? We aren't much different than Israel, are we? Human nature is just about the same. Maybe we are not doing any better than Israel. Let us fear lest we fall after the same example of unbelief. That proves to me that the apostle must have known there would be those who would fall after the same example of unbelief.

We think of the rich man who had a wonderful harvest of grain. He didn't have room for it, so he decided to tear down his old barns and build bigger barns so he could store his goods. There might not have been anything wrong with that in itself, but the attitude was wrong when he said, "I'll say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry." I believe that is where the sin was. "But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee; then whose shall these things be, which thou hast provided?" The harvest came to this rich man not only in the natural, but as far as his life was concerned. God called him a fool because he had the wrong attitude about the material blessings of life.

Do you think it makes any difference how we think about the material things of life? Do you think it is possible to get too materialistic? Do you think it is possible that we might worship the almighty dollar more than we should? I believe it is possible that we as a church, center our affection entirely too much at times on the material things of life, whether we admit it or whether we don't. Sometimes I think that we in the church have more respect to the man with money than we do to the poor man. That isn't christian, either, is it? We do it and think nothing about it and say it doesn't make any difference. That is not the way a church should be. But people do it and they are going to reap a harvest. Do you think it makes any difference? What will the harvest be if we get too materialistic? The Bible says for us to lay up treasures in Heaven and not on the earth. Treasures in Heaven are the important things; for this world and all that is in the world shall pass away. Yes, if we are too materialistic and allow these things to be more important than the things of God, in reality we are nothing more than idol worshipers. We have made material things our God.

We have the story of the rich man and Lazarus. The Bible says there was a man who fared sumptuously every day, and was clothed in purple and fine linen. He had everything that his heart could desire. He did not have God in his life. He didn't have love, mercy, or compassion for others less fortunate. Lazarus would have been glad for the crumbs from

the rich man's table, but the rich man didn't have time to give him that. But don't you know he thought he had a good life, he thought he had it made, but the harvest came to that man. They both died. Lazarus was carried by the angels unto Abraham's bosom, but the rich man lifted up his eyes in hell. Do you believe that story? Do you think the story a myth? Do you think that this will be a reality sometime, or do you think it is a fairy tale? I wouldn't be surprised if there are a lot of repeat performances of the rich man and Lazarus. Yes, indeed, I believe there will be a lot of repetition of that very thing. We have everything we want for ourselves and we want to keep it that way. We have no love, no mercy, no compassion if a man is poor and destitute. We just think that is his tough luck and we are going to go our own way. Some day there is going to be a harvest, and we might find that poor man in Heaven and ourselves in torment right along with the rich man.

It does make a difference how we live. It does make a difference how we treat our fellowmen. It does make a difference how we treat our brethren in the church and those who need our assistance when we are able to give it and do not. The Bible says if we see our brother in need and do nothing about it, how dwelleth the love of God in us? That is Bible -- it does make a difference. We would rather give our money to someone who already has plenty of money. I've seen that happen. I have seen people try to give money to people who don't need any money at all. But they don't even see the people who need help and assistance. They don't know those people. I don't believe that is christian. I think that is sowing seeds that will bring a harvest. Do you think so? Do you think it makes no difference how you live?

There was Ananias and Sapphira in the days of the early church. They lied to the apostles concerning the property they had sold. They said that yes, we have done thus and so. But on the other side they had agreed to keep back some part of this for themselves. We know the story; they were struck down on the spot; death came to them. Harvest time came to Ananias and Sapphira. How about us? Do we ever lie to God?

When we came into the church we promised God certain things. Have we lied to Him or have we been faithful? Have we been true? You know a lot of people think that it won't make one bit of difference about the vows we take when we come into the church. No, you can't shake people up about that. That is just man's idea, it doesn't make any difference. We are going to be in the church and if we don't want to keep those vows it won't make any difference as the church doesn't have any right to teach, uphold, or enforce any rules -- absolutely not. That is the idea of some people.

I don't know what you think, but I believe it does make a difference. When we make those promises to almighty God it makes all the dif-

ference in the world whether we are faithful or not. You think what you like, but I am warning you this afternoon and myself as well, what we have promised to do unto God, we had better put forth our best efforts to do it. I believe it will make a difference when harvest comes. That is one thing that is wrong with our own beloved church. We don't respect our vows we made when we came in the church. It is going to make a difference in the end time. I believe it is. The Bible says it is better not to vow a vow than to vow and not keep it.

The Laodicean church was warned, "I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot:...because thou art lukewarm," Jesus says, "...I will spue thee out of my mouth." Do you believe it makes any difference if I become lukewarm in the church? Would you stand up and tell me this afternoon that this message was just for the Laodicean church and doesn't have any bearing on us? Would you dare to stand and tell me we can be a lukewarm church and still be in favor with God Almighty? Would you dare to tell me that this afternoon? Lukewarmness, I believe, is still going to be spued out of the mouth of God and Jesus Christ in the day of judgment. If I am lukewarm and if you are lukewarm, it is going to make a difference what the harvest will be.

Oh, that we might have a renewal of that zeal that the apostles had! If we could have the spirit of the Apostle Paul as he worked in the early church! He was persuaded that nothing was going to remove him and separate him from the love of God. But it seems we have lost the fire. We have lost the zeal. We have lost the determination to carry on the fight of faith and lukewarmness is creeping upon us. Yet, people aren't a bit excited. It doesn't make any difference to them. I suppose they think there is something wrong with the preacher who is concerned. The Bible says all Scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness. I take that to mean the letter to the Laodicean Church is for our admonition as well.

There is the other side of reaping to consider -- those who have reaped a good harvest. We think of the apostles of old that lived faithful unto God and reaped a harvest of joy. The Bible says we shall sow to ourselves in righteousness and reap in mercy. Break up your fallow ground for it is time to seek the Lord. This is not the time to go back on the church. This is not the time to forsake the Word of God. This is not the time to become lukewarm. This is not the time to go out and follow the devil and his crowd. This is the time to seek the Lord! Break up the fallow ground in our hearts and sow to ourselves in righteousness.

I think of Stephen as he was being stoned. The Bible says he was a man full of faith and the Holy Ghost. I believe he lived a good life; I believe he did God's will; but the people didn't like Stephen. They stoned him to death, but the Word says as he lay dying, he looked up into

Heaven and said, "...I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God." I believe Stephen knew what the harvest was. I believe he knew he was going to inherit eternal life, because he died for his faith.

Likewise, the Apostle Paul came down to the close of life saying, "I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day." Now if we would stop there it would be something else, but it goes on to say, "Not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing." I believe that the apostle means to tell us that there is a crown of life for each of us here this afternoon, if we will keep the faith. If we will fight the good fight of faith and lay hold on the words of eternal life, if we will follow the teaching of God's Word and live holy and righteous lives there will be a crown of life for each and everyone of us. "He that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting."

You may think the work of the Church is not important. You may think living a christian life is not worth the effort. Maybe you think the Church demands too much of your time. Maybe you grow tired of it, but I tell you it is worth every ounce of sacrifice we make in her behalf. It is worth all the effort we ever put into the church and christian life. It is worth it all! The poet expressed this thought in the hymn, "Heaven will surely be worth it all." Do you think so? Would you exchange that crown of life for the pits of hell? Would you exchange a home in Heaven for a home in eternal damnation? One or the other is going to be our lot. One or the other is going to be our harvest. If we serve Satan we are going to land in hell. If we serve God faithfully, we are going to have a home in the courts of glory. Which one do you want this afternoon? The poet has said, "Let us sow righteous seed for the vineyard," so in that great day we can hear Jesus say, "Come ye, blessed, a crown you have won."

Concluded

— Brother Dean St. John, Harvest Meeting

— Selected by Sister Maxine Surbey

ANSWERED PRAYER

Part 7

The Bible tells us how and where to pray. It also includes a wealth of illustrations of prayers and their answers. Much of the Bible consists of prayers offered to God by men and women under every conceivable condition.

Prayers addressed to Almighty God are as varied as the range of human imagination. Some prayers are long, some are short, some are as shouts, some are secret, some are public. God hears them all. He does not always answer every prayer directly. Some He answers yes; some He answers no. Some He defers answering in any way until a later date. However and whenever He answers our prayers, it is always for our best. Often, it is not what we had hoped for.

There is one kind of prayer in the New Testament that is worth our note. That is when we pray for one another or each other. How much better the church would be if instead of talking about each other, we would resolve to pray for each other. If we must talk about someone, talk to God about that person.

Satan has overtaken many a person who needs our individual prayers as well as the combined prayers of the church. When a body of believers have an individual's problem or weakness at heart, they will pray for that individual. Instead of pressing him down, they will hold him up in the arms of prayer. They will do for him what they would want others to do for them.

Someone has penned these words: The most beautiful sight God beholds from His Throne above is to see an individual or a church body, down on their knees, praying in behalf of some individual who needs divine help. God sees these scenes, hears their prayers and answers.

We have recorded in Acts, chapter twelve, just such an incident.

King Herod set about to "vex certain of the church." Starting in on the leaders, he first sought James, the brother of John, and slew him with a sword.

His next victim was Peter. He had him arrested and put into prison. He ordered a heavy guard to assure that Peter would not escape. His intentions were to bring Peter forth to the people, following Easter. Peter, the man of God and a leader in the church, was in trouble. He knew what befell James. Peter was not ashamed of being in chains or being in prison. He was there because of his stand for his Lord.

Outside the prison walls there was a prayer meeting. The church had come together in behalf of Peter; they appealed to the God of Heaven in his behalf. This was not a short prayer meeting. They prayed without ceasing! Being greatly concerned about Peter, they were in earnest. They were doing exactly what our responsibility is toward a brother or sister in the church. They were praying for one of their own. There is no power on earth equal to the power of prayer to God for His help in overcoming the wily arts of Satan. Did God hear their united prayers? Yes! Did He answer their prayers? Yes!

While they were in prayer, and on the very night Herod was going to bring Peter out of prison, Peter was sleeping. He was bound with two

chains. Guards were keeping watch at the door. The church was still in their prayer meeting. God, in answer to the prayers of the church, dispatched an angel to Peter's side. While the prison no doubt was in complete darkness at this hour, with the coming of the angel a light shined in the prison. The angel awakened Peter by smiting him on the side, telling him to arise quickly. When he arose his chains fell off from his hands. The angel told him to dress and follow him.

The angel led the way; Peter followed. Peter could hardly realize exactly what was taking place. He thought he saw a vision. After passing the first and second ward they came to an iron gate. As they approached the gate it opened on its own accord. The angel led the way through one gate and through one street. Then he departed from Peter. His mission was accomplished.

How easy it is for God to answer our petitions. What seems insurmountable to man is quite easy for God.

It took Peter a little time to understand what took place. He now realized that the Lord had sent the angel and delivered him from Herod.

Peter went to the home of Mary, the mother of John Mark. I believe the Holy Spirit led him there. I do not believe that Peter knew what was taking place in this home. But here is where the Church was holding their prayer meeting for Peter.

Peter knocked on the gate. A damsel, named Rhoda, heard and knew his voice, but did not open. She was so overjoyed that she ran in and told the prayer group that Peter was outside at the gate. They did not believe her. Where was their faith? Peter kept knocking. Finally, someone opened the door and when they saw Peter they were surprised. Peter related to them how the Lord had delivered him out of Prison, then he departed.

God recognizes when one person prays for another. He was aware the Church was praying for the release of Peter. He heard the prayer; He answered it; He released Peter.

Each answered prayer that we read of in the Bible should increase our faith in prayer. I am fearful we accomplish so little because we neglect our prayer life.

— Brother Paul R. Myers, Box 117, Greentown, Ohio



It is a blessing that salvation cannot be purchased with money, if it could be, there would not be any poor folks in Heaven.



To work out our life's problems, we need to add love, subtract hate, multiply good, and divide between truth and error.

JOSEPH TRIES HIS BRETHREN

Gen. 42:21-38

Joseph, as governor of Egypt, had said to his brothers, "Let one of you be bound in prison and the rest may go and take corn to your homes; but when you return bring your youngest brother unto me."

The brothers began to talk together in Hebrew and they didn't know Joseph understood them because he was an Egyptian and talked with them by an interpreter. And they said one to another, "We are guilty concerning our brother, Joseph. Remember how he pleaded with us; how we saw his anguish; and we would not hear him when he cried unto us. Now we are paying for our crime and this distress is come upon us."

And Reuben answered them, "Didn't I tell you that you shouldn't sin against the child and you wouldn't listen? Now his blood is required of us and we will have to pay."

They were guilty and knew it and when Joseph heard them he turned away and wept because he truly loved his brethren. He also wanted them to realize the wrong they had done. So Joseph had Simeon bound in prison and commanded his servants to fill their sacks with corn and to put each brother's money, which had been paid, back into their sacks. They were also given food for them and their animals for their journey home. Of course, Joseph's brethren didn't know about the money being returned to them.

On the way home one of the brothers opened his sack to feed his donkey and he saw his money in the sack. When he told the others they were afraid and said, "What has God done unto us?" They finally arrived in the land of Canaan and came to Jacob, their father, and said, "The man who is ruler of the land of Egypt spoke very cross to us and said we were spies. Sure we told him we were true men and that we had one brother at home and the other was dead. And the ruler said, 'You must leave one of you here with me for security and when you return you must bring your youngest brother back with you: then I will know that you are true and I will deliver your brother to you; then you can be free to buy and sell in Egypt'."

Then they all opened their sacks and every man's money was returned to them in their sacks, and they were afraid. Jacob said, "You have taken my children from me: Joseph is not and Simeon is gone and now you want to take Benjamin away. This is too much for me."

Joseph loved his brethren even though they sinned against him and he wanted them to feel sorry for what they had done. Jesus also loves us, though we have sinned exceedingly and He also wants us to feel sorry and repent of our sins.

— Brother Rudy Cover

PROGRESS

I sometimes look ahead and think
How far I have to go,
How rugged is my journey and
Step by step how slow;
Then I recall my starting
So many milestones back,
And I arise, rejoicing,
With thanks pick up my pack--
Look neither back nor forward,
Press onward, knowing when
I walk with God around me
I'll go as far again.

— Viola Conklin

Selected by Sister Della Klepinger

WHAT LIES AHEAD FOR THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST?

The alternatives are few.

The Church may face increasing persecution. That is a definite possibility. Already this century more have died for their faith than in the early persecutions of the Church. In Russia and China many thousands have won the martyr's crown.

The Church may face increasing apostasy and apathy. In the movements for church unity we are seeing how men are prepared to compromise the fundamentals of the faith in order to achieve a semblance of what Christ prayed for in John 17. But union is not unity, and an organization is not necessarily an organism.

The Church may experience revival. That surely should be the earnest prayer of each believer. By revival we mean the revitalization of a lukewarm Church. We mean deeper views of God's holiness and man's sin. We mean more zeal in Christ's service and more fervor in prayer.

The Church may face the rapture. That is a possibility that we must never exclude from our consideration of the future. Christ has promised to return and to receive His Church to Himself. That promise will be fulfilled in terms of I Thessalonians 4:13-18.

As we face the future, perhaps the Church will experience a combination of some of these possibilities. The Church may face tribulation, but that may issue in revival. The Church may experience increasing

apostasy, but the result may be a purified remnant, willing to die for the faith once delivered to the saints. And the purification of the Church consequent upon these things may climax in the return of Christ for His own.

What lies ahead? We do not know, but we believe that the future is in good hands.

— The Prairie Overcomer

NEWS ITEMS

OBITUARIES

VERN HOSTETLER

Quincy Vern Hostetler was born on August 10, 1902, to Daniel and Susan (Wissinger) Hostetler in rural Miami County, near Peru, Indiana. He departed this life on December 4, 1974, in the Fulton County Health Center, Wauseon, Ohio, at the age of 72 years, 3 months, and 24 days.

After moving to several communities throughout the United States he established his home near Montpelier in Williams County, Ohio.

He married Dortha Tate on November 20, 1941, whom he precedes in death. Their home was made in the Montpelier area and to this Christian marriage was added three children: Mrs. Bill (Sandra) Armstrong of Wauseon, Ohio, Mrs. Len (Ronda) Wertz of Colorado Springs, Colorado, and Don Hostetler, West Unity, Ohio. Also surviving is a sister, Mrs. Marvelene Schlecht of Fort Wayne, Indiana; and eight grandchildren. He was preceded in death by a brother, E. Paul Hostetler.

Being reared in a Christian home and anxious to follow a vigorous life in service to Christ, Vern accepted Christ and was baptized on August 10, 1912. He was elected to the ministry on September 16, 1939, and after faithfully serving in this calling for ten years, was ordained into the eldership on November 5, 1949. As an elder he served on many committees and gave freely of his time, knowledge, and efforts for the benefit of the church and in the service of Christ.

Funeral services were conducted Saturday, December 7, at the Pleasant Ridge Dunkard Brethren Church. Elder Edward Johnson officiated, assisted by Elders Dean St. John and Harley Flory.

How beautiful are the feet of him,
Who has walked this earth below,
To publish salvation tidings,
To we who need them so.

Ho, everyone that thirsteth,
We've often heard him say,
Come drink, buy wine and milk,
No price for us to pay.

Those feet have stopped, the voice is stilled;
But the message still goes on,
And the joy it gives within our heart,
Can only leave a song.

Don't let the gloom become despair,
As we face earth's trials sore,
For they cannot be greater,
Than the trials our Saviour bore.

The storm has raged, the sea has rolled,
But He maketh it a calm,
And though our hearts are broken,
He will heal them with His balm.

Weeping endureth but for a night,
Then joy cometh in the morning,
Take the message he has left,
Proclaim it -- sound the warning.

For soon the clouds will roll away,
That glorious day shall dawn,
When we shall lay our burdens down,
For the victory he has won.

In memory of Vern Hostetler
by Sister Lucille Throne

The family wishes to express their sincere thanks for all the thoughtful expressions of sympathy, the many prayers, and other kind considerations at this time of the loss of their loved one.



LEOTA GOOD EARLY

Daughter of Perry and Hettie Trissel Wenger, was born on November 11, 1893, near Dayton, Virginia, and departed this life at Rockingham Memorial Hospital on September 27, 1974, at the age of 80 years.

Most of her life was spent in the Dayton Community. She was married twice. Her first husband, Weldon Isaac Good predeceased her. In December of 1959, she married J. Roy Early, who died December 29, 1970.

She was a faithful member of the Dayton Dunkard Brethren Church. For many years she taught the primary class and helped with lovefeast preparations, during the years services were being held at the Berea

Chapel. She enjoyed having members visit in her home, and had the privilege of attending several General Conferences.

Surviving are three daughters, Mrs. Alice Gardner of R. 1, Mt. Solon, Virginia; Mrs. Bertha Lee Layman of Rt. 1, Broadway, Virginia; and Mrs. Charlotte Bowers of Port Republic, Virginia; one son, Rodney D. Good of R. 2, Dayton, Virginia; three stepdaughters, Mrs. Ralph Heatwole and Mrs. John Wenger, both of R. 2, Dayton, Virginia and Mrs. Albert Rounds of R. 5, Harrisonburg, Virginia; two stepsons, Samuel Early and Byard Early, both of R. 2, Dayton, Virginia; 14 grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; 23 stepgrandchildren; 75 step-great-grandchildren; 3 step-great-great-grandchildren; four sisters, Misses Anna, Etta, and Julia Wenger, all of Hinton, Virginia, and Mrs. Ella Martin of Dayton, Virginia.

Funeral services were conducted at the Lindsey Harrisonburg Funeral Chapel on Monday morning, September 30, by Elder Paul Reed. Interment in the Pleasant View Church Cemetery near Dayton.



WILLIAM EDWARD CARR

Was born September 6, 1897 to Eli F. and Mary Stroop Carr at Fulks Run, Virginia, and passed away at Rockingham Memorial Hospital on November 14, 1974, at the age of 77 years.

Brother Carr was a farmer and spent his entire life in the Fulks Run community, making his home in later years with his sister-in-law, Sister Marjorie Carr and family.

He was a member of the Dayton Dunkard Brethren Church, having accepted the Dunkard faith while still a young man. He enjoyed church services, especially the singing and helped as a congregational leader in his younger years. As he grew older, many shut-in hours were spent reading and studying God's precious Word. He had the blessed privilege of attending our fall lovefeast, just a few weeks before his death.

Surviving are two sisters, Sister Rosa B. May of Myerstown, Pennsylvania and Mrs. Anna A. See of Lancaster, Pennsylvania; two brothers, John H. and E.R. Carr, both of Fulks Run; a number of nieces and nephews; and many faithful friends and neighbors.

Funeral services were conducted at the Mt. Grove Church of the Brethren at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, November 16, by Elder David Ebling and Pastor James Dodds. Interment in the church cemetery near by.



We must be very careful with that unruly member, the tongue, for it could be the cause of our missing that eternal home, for which we are all so earnestly striving. James 1:26

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS

FOR FEBRUARY

Feb. 2— Death by Adam - Life by Christ. Rom. 5:1-21

Feb. 9— Servants of Sin or Servants of Christ. Rom 6:1-23

Feb. 16— Holiness of the Law. Rom. 7:1-25

Feb. 23— The Law of the Spirit of Life. Rom. 8:1-23

QUESTIONS:

- (1) What is the free gift mentioned in Rom. 5:15,18?
- (2) How can we be dead and still alive? Rom. 6:11
- (3) What is the cause of death? Rom. 7:13
- (4) If the law were holy, why could it not give life? Rom. 7:14
- (5) What is the answer to our lost condition? Rom. 8:2



EYES OF GOD— All seeing eyes: The eyes of the Lord are in every place, beholding the evil and the good. — Prov. 15:3.

Penetrating eyes: All things are naked and opened unto the eyes of Him with whom we have to do. — Heb. 4:13.

Thoughtful eyes: For the ways of man are before the eyes of the Lord, and He pondereth all His goings. — Prov. 5:21.

Remembering eyes: And they consider not in their hearts that I remember all their wickedness; now their own doings have beset them about; they are before my face. — Hosea 7:2.

Judging eyes: Thine eyes are open upon all the ways of the sons of men; to give every one according to the fruit of his doings. — Jer. 32:19.

Providing eyes: A land which the Lord thy God careth for; the eyes of the Lord thy God are always upon it, from the beginning of the year even unto the end of the year. — Deut. 11:12.



DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR FEBRUARY 1975

COME

Memory Verse, Jud. 11:7

And Jephthah said unto the elders of Gilead, Did not ye hate me, and expel me out of my father's house? and why are ye come unto me now when ye are in distress?

Sat. 1 - Jud. 1:1-25

Memory Verse, Jud. 13:8

Then Manoah intreated the Lord, and said, O my Lord, let the man of God which thou didst send come again unto us, and teach us what we shall do unto the child that shall be born.

Sun. 2 - Jud. 3:12-31

Mon. 3 - Jud. 6:7-32

Tues. 4 - Jud. 7:1-25

Wed. 5 - Jud. 9:1-29

Thurs. 6 - Jud. 9:30-57

Fri. 7 - Jud. 11:1-28

Sat. 8 - Jud. 11:29-40

Memory Verse, Ruth 2:12

The Lord recompense thy work, and a full reward be given thee of the Lord God of Israel, under whose wings thou art come to trust.

Sun. 9 - Jud. 13:1-25

Mon. 10 - Jud. 15:1-20

Tues. 11 - Ruth 1:1-22

Wed. 12 - Ruth 2:1-23

Thurs. 13 - Ruth 4:1-17

Fri. 14 - I Sam. 1:1-28

Sat. 15 - I Sam. 2:1-21

Memory Verse, I Sam. 4:7

And the Philistines were afraid,

for they said, God is come into the camp. And they said, Woe unto us! for there hath not been such a thing heretofore.

Sun. 16 - I Sam. 4:1-22

Mon. 17 - I Sam. 6:1-21

Tues. 18 - I Sam. 9:1-27

Wed. 19 - I Sam. 10:1-27

Thurs. 20 - I Sam. 11:1-15

Fri. 21 - I Sam. 12:1-25

Sat. 22 - I Sam. 13:1-23

Memory Verse, I Sam. 10:6

And the Spirit of the Lord will come upon thee, and thou shalt prophesy with them, and shalt be turned into another man.

Sun. 23 - I Sam. 14:1-23

Mon. 24 - I Sam. 16:1-23

Tues. 25 - I Sam. 17:1-29

Wed. 26 - I Sam. 17:30-58

Thurs. 27 - I Sam. 20:1-23

Fri. 28 - I Sam. 20:24-42

Memory Verses, I Sam. 10:7

And let it be, when these signs are come unto thee, that thou do as occasion serve thee; for God is with thee.

I Sam. 17:45

Then said David to the Philistine, Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied.

Paul R. Myers
Box 117
Greentown, Ohio 44630

BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LIII

FEBRUARY 1, 1975

NO. 3

"For the faith once for all delivered to the saints."

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

ARE YOU READY?

Are you ready for the Saviour
Should He call you home today?
Are your thoughts and words in pureness
Strewn all along the way?
Is your heart filled full of goodness,
Every spot cleansed free from sin
By the precious blood of Jesus
As you travel home to Him?

Are you working in the vineyard
Cheerfully in bonds of love?
Do you help the fainting pilgrims
Find new hope in Christ above?
Are you happy in His service
As you labor, serve, and pray?
When the Lord of Harvest cometh,
Will He bear your soul away?

- The Christian Contender

ENSAMPLES FOR OUR ADMONITION

"But with many of them God was not well pleased: for they were overthrown in the wilderness. Now these things were our examples, to the intent we should not lust after evil things, as they also lusted. Neither be ye idolaters, as were some of them; as it is written, The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play. Neither let us commit fornication, as some of them committed, and fell in one day three and twenty thousand. Neither let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed of serpents. Neither murmur ye, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer. Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come. Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall." I Cor. 10:5-12.

We see in these verses that human nature is very much the same today as it was in Moses' day. We also see that God was displeased with them and overthrew them. They lusted after the evil things of this world. "Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not. Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts." James 4:2,3. Do you think God will overlook our sins if He did not overlook the sins of His own people Israel?

The Word warns us not to be idolaters as were some of them. Perhaps we think that doesn't apply to us because we do not worship idols today. But wait! Are we sure we do not have idols? In vs. 7, the Apostle Paul appears to couple idolatry with sitting down, eating and drinking, and rising up to play. Seemingly, it takes much entertainment in our day to satisfy people. Do you think it possible these could become an idol? What do you visualize an idol to be? Did you ever consider that chrome, glass, and steel could become an idol? What is your definition of an idol? I believe an idol is anything that comes between God and myself.

Another of the great sins of God's people was fornication. "What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's." I Cor. 6:19,20. Because they committed fornication twenty-three thousand fell in one day.

Then there was the sin of murmuring. Some of them murmured and were also destroyed. How often we complain or murmur, even about trivial things. Surely this indicates our ingratitude to God for the blessings He bestows upon us continually.

"Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world have come. Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.

Let us look to ourselves that we lose not those things for which we have labored.

LIFE

Life is a battle
We all have to fight,
But the good Christian armor
Equips us just right.

With Christ as our Captain,
We fear not the foe;
No evil can harm us
As onward we go.

Our sword is the Bible,
And with it we slay
All sinful opposers
From day unto day.

With truth we are girded,
And boldly we meet
That cowardly Satan,
We know no defeat

- Alberta Fair

Selected by Sister Della Klepinger

THE BIBLE MONITOR

FEBRUARY 1, 1975

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NOTICE CONCERNING SUBSCRIPTIONS

Newlywed couples may receive a year's subscription free if a request is forwarded to the editor with their name and full address.

To those who anticipate moving - please report a change of address promptly to the editor to prevent the papers being miscarried.

It will also be appreciated if those who send in subscriptions will give the complete addresses and indicate whether they are new or renewal subscriptions.

It will be of help to the editor if subscriptions are always sent in the same name.

Is your subscription renewed?

- Editor



A CLEAR TITLE

The Sunday School Times published a letter written by an elderly man who was anticipating Heaven. He wrote:

"I am interested in Heaven because I hold a clear title to a bit of property there...for over fifty-years, my name has been on the deed...it was given to me without money and without price. But the donor purchased it at tremendous sacrifice. I am not holding it for speculation since the title is not transferable. For more than half a century I have been sending materials out of which the greatest Architect and Builder of all time has been building a home for me which will never need to be repaired or remodeled...no locks or bolts will ever be placed upon its doors for no vicious persons can enter that land where my dwelling stands. It is almost completed and ready for me to enter in and abide eternally without fear of ever being ejected. There is a valley of deep shadows between the place where I now live and that to which I shall pass in a very short time. I cannot reach my home in that city of gold without passing through this dark valley of shadows. But I am not afraid; the very best Friend I ever had went through that same dark valley and drove away all of its gloom. He has stuck by me through thick and thin since we first became acquainted...I hold His promises in printed form in which He declares He will never leave me nor forsake...my ticket to the land of Eternal Day, Heaven, has no date marked on it for the journey...there is no return coupon...there is no permit for baggage...I am ready to go...I shall meet you there someday."

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EDITORIAL POLICY

That it be the policy of the Bible Monitor to exclude controversial material and material opposing, questioning or reflecting on decisions or positions of the church as determined by the General Conference or derogatory thereto. Also all other material not of proper standard or spiritual value for a church paper.

That supervision over the matter to be published in the Bible Monitor be exercised by the Publication Board.

PRINTED MATERIAL

The following Dunkard Brethren publications are available to anyone, from the Boards listed:

GENERAL MISSION BOARD

The following tracts are free:

Do You Want Salvation?
The Lord's Supper
Which is the Right Church?
The Brethren's Card.
The Doctrine of the Prayer Veil.

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No charge for the following:
Polity Booklet
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Church Letter Blanks
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SUGGESTIONS TO CONTRIBUTORS

We are submitting several suggestions as a help to contributors in preparing material for the Bible Monitor. These suggestions will also make the work easier for both the editor and the printer.

1. Become familiar with the Editorial Policy and do not use subjects or statements which conflict with this plan of the Bible Monitor.

2. Place your name and address at the close of the article. We deem it more appropriate to sign as Brother or Sister.

3. Do not make sentences too long. A number of short sentences are better than a long involved sentence which is difficult to punctuate, and in which the real meaning of the writer's thought may be lost.

4. It will be appreciated if you gather a particular thought or thoughts and their proving Scripture quotations, into paragraphs and set these apart from the rest of the article, by setting in the first line of each paragraph about the space of three letters.

5. Do not crowd your words or punctuation marks close together. Do not use slang or abbreviated words as - "thot" for thought, "2" for two, "&" for and, etc.

6. Write or typewrite on one side of the paper only. Double spacing of lines is much preferred. Do not make the lines the full width of the sheet, leave at least one inch margin on each side of the sheet.

7. Use direct quotations for the Scripture references, please copy the wording and the punctuation just as it appears in the King James Version of the Bible. Given thus: book, chapter and verse, "Jesus wept", John 11:35.

8. Frequent mistakes we find: beleive for believe, recieve for receive, judgement for judgment, ore for or, & for and.

9. In submitting selected material, give the name of the author and the publication in which it appeared, if known, and add "selected by" and your name.

10. To be certain that an item is in a certain issue, your Editor should have this item at least 30 days prior to the date of the issue.

11. The Publication Board has decided that News Items should contain material in general interest to the Brotherhood. Therefore items of only local interest should not be included in News Items, such as: Local Sunday School officers, District meeting delegates, minor local church property improvements and items "In Memoriam."

12. Read these and then write.

FIXED COMMUNION DATES

First Sat. April-Dallas Center, Ia.
 Last Sat. April-Grandview, Mo.
 Last Sun. April-Bethel, Pa.
 First Sun. May-Waynesboro, Pa.
 Third Sat. May-Dayton, Va.
 Third Sat. May-West Fulton, O.
 Third Sun. May-N. Lancaster, Pa.
 Fourth Sun. May-Shrewsb'y, Pa.
 First Sat. Aug.-Boradwater Chapel, Md
 Sat. before 4th Sun., August-Swallow Falls, Md.
 Labor Day weekend-S. Fulton, Illinois
 Last Sun. Sept.-Mt. Dale, Md.
 First Sun. Oct.-Walnut Grove, Md.
 Last Sun. Oct.-Bethel, Pa.
 Sec. Sun. Oct.-Waynesboro, Pa.
 Third Sat. Oct.-Dayton, Va.
 Third Sun. Oct.-N. Lancaster, Pa.

Fourth Sat. Oct.-Englewood, O.
 First Sun. Nov.-Shrewsbury, Pa.

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- A. Elders, other officials and all others are admonished that being busybodies in other men's matters, is contrary to the Scriptures and it should not be indulged in, as it causes complaint and interference with the spiritual life and work of those concerned. This applies especially where there may be trouble in the church, both to local members and those elsewhere, talking and writing about such matters.
- B. When advice is sought of an official in any church matter he (the official) should be exceedingly careful in giving advice, so as not to interfere in any way with proper care of difficulties, by officials whose business

they are. Elders and all others should, in seeking advice, begin at home when at all possible and be careful to proceed regularly and in brotherly love.

- C. In correspondence, care should be exercised not to make statements that may be construed as derogatory to any member. If such things are done, full responsibility must be understood as being assumed by the writer.
- D. Caucusing, that is, the talking over and planning by groups, what to do or how to move in any particular matter is unprofitable, causative of distress and trouble and should not be indulged in by officials or any one else.
- E. Talking or circulating of what was done in council, either to members who were not present or to outsiders, is irregular and unChristian and should not be indulged in.

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LOCATION OF CHURCH HOUSES

BETHEL, PA.

Frystown House, located in Frystown, in northwestern Berks County, one mile south of Route 22 and one mile west of Route 501.

Milbach House, located halfway between Kleinfeltersville and Newmanstown, in Lebanon County or halfway between Schafferstown and Womelsdorf, Pa.

CLEARVILLE, PA.

Wards Church, located 14 miles southwest of Everett, Pa., all improved roads. From Everett take Route 26 to Clearville, Pa. At Clearville straight ahead South, leaving Rt. 26, which turns right, one and one-half miles, then turn right at fork. Ward's Church is five miles on the left.

DALLAS CENTER IOWA

Dallas Center is located on Route 44, twenty-four miles northwest of Des Moines. Turn south off of Route 64 on to Percival Ave. (first street west of R.R. tracks); the church is located 3 blocks south on the southeast corner of Percival and Ash Streets.

DAYTON, VIRGINIA

Turn west from Interstate 81 at Harrisonburg exit No. 63. Go to second stop light, Route 42; turn left to Dayton, (3 miles) right on Route 257 two blocks.

ENGLEWOOD, OHIO

Twelve miles north of Dayton, Rt. 440 and Rt. 48 cross at the center of Englewood. Church house is located on the right of Rt. 48, one block north of this junction.

GOSHEN, INDIANA

Located on Green Road one block north of county No. 130. Take U.S. 33 or Indiana No. 15 to Goshen, turn west at Police booth. Four blocks beyond bridge, turn right on North Indiana Ave., one block turn left on W. Clinton St. One mile to Green Rd., right one block and church is located on east side of road.

GRANDVIEW, MISSOURI

The Grandview Church is located south of Grandview. Take the west access road of 71 Highway 1½ miles south to 139th St., turn west, go to the second street and south one block.

LITITZ, PA.

At Broad and Main Streets, turn east on Main St. and continue for two blocks, turn right or south on Willow Street. Church house is one block.

**MECHANICSBURG,
CUMBERLAND CTY., PA.**

Located between Routes 15 and 11. The town is bisected by Route 114 into East and West, and by Route 641 into North and South. The church is located on West Keller St., or corner of Keller and Washington Street four blocks west of Market St. or Route 114. Leaving the Pennsylvania Turnpike at the Carlisle interchange, Route 11 will lead east to Route 114. Leaving the Turnpike at Gettysburg interchange, Route 16 will lead west to Route 114.

McCLAVE, COLORADO

The Cloverleaf church is located one mile north of U.S. Highway No. 50, four miles west of McClave junction, or two miles east of Hasty, Colo., on U.S. No. 50 and then north one mile.

MIDWAY, INDIANA

An old red brick school house on your right, as you travel southwest from Peru, just off U.S. Highway 31, three miles from the Courthouse, which is located near the center of Peru, Indiana.

MOUNTAINDALE, MD.

Seven miles north of Frederick, in the little town of Mountindale, Md., from east go through town to west on road from Lewistown to Yellow Springs, two miles from Lewistown and three miles from Yellow Springs. If traveling U.S. 15, this road crosses No. 15, half mile west of Lewistown and six miles south of Thurmont.

PLEASANT HOME, CA.

Coming from the north on Rt. 99, to Ceres, go through underpass, turn right to

stop sign on El Camino St., turn left on Park St. to 6th St., turn right one block to Roeding Ave., turn left and go 1½ miles to the Church on Roeding. Coming from the south, turn off highway on El Camino to stop sign, turn left on Park St. and follow above directions.

PLEASANT RIDGE, OHIO

Located in Williams County, four miles west of West Unity, forty rods north of Route 20 alternate. Two miles east of junction of Ohio Route 15 and U.S. Route 20 alternate.

PLEVNA, IND.

Route 18 passes east and west through Converse, Route 513 passes north and south through Converse. From Converse south, two and one-half miles, turn right on blacktop road and go six miles west to Plevna; church is near the square of Plevna.

NEWBERG, ORE.

Highway 99W enters Newberg in east-west direction. Those entering from the east on First St., go to third stop light, turn right on North Main. Go four blocks to the church at corner of N. Main and Franklin Sts. Entering from the west, turn left at first stop light onto N. Main and go four blocks to the corner of Main and Franklin Sts.

ORION, OHIO

Located in northeastern Ohio, on Orion Road, one fourth mile west of State Rt. 8, at a point six miles north of Canton or one and one-half miles north of North Canton and 17 miles south of Akron.

QUINTER, KANSAS

Located at the corner of Eighth Street and Main Street.

S. FULTON, ILL.

Astoria, Ill., is located on Rt. 24, coming

from east or west, turn south at the bank corner marked by the big clock. Two miles south and on the right at top of hill.

WAYNESBORO, PA.

Church is located in west side of town, on corner of Ridge and Third Streets. Turn south of Route 16 on Fairview Ave., go two blocks and turn left on Third Street, churchhouse is one block.

SHREWSBURY, PA.

Fourteen miles south of York on Route 111, at the north end of the town of Shrewsbury.

SWALLOW FALLS, MD.

Traveling U.S. Rt. 50, turn north at Red house, half way between Clarksburg and Winchester, follow Rt. 219 to Oakland, there turn left on county road 20. The church is on Rt. 20, about nine miles north of Oakland. Traveling U.S. Rt. 40, turn south onto Rt. 219, at Keyser Ridge, follow Route 219 about four miles past Deep Great Lake, turn right on county road 20 at a store. The church is one and one half miles Swallow Falls Park.

WALNUT GROVE, MD.

About midway between Frederick, Md., and Hanover, Pa.; One-fourth mile east of Route 194, at an intersection three miles north of Taneytown, Md.

W. FULTON, OHIO

Near Wauseon, Ohio, located on U.S.

Route 20 alternate, three and one-half miles west of junction of Ohio, Route 108 and U.S., Route 20 alternate.

WINTER HAVEN, CA.

Located in Cherry Valley. Go north of Beaumont on Beaumont Ave., go right on Brookside (marked with a Highland Springs sign) to Jonathan, left to Lincoln and right to the church.



MISSIONS

CLEARVILLE, PA. - In South Central Pennsylvania, about half-way between Everett on Route 30 and Piney Grove on Route 40. About six miles south of Clearville, Pa., along hard road a little east of Route 26. Services second, fourth and fifth Sundays, 10:00 a.m.

TORREON NAVAJO MISSION

Located southwest of Cuba, New Mexico, 23 miles. Turn on State Highway 197 in Cuba. Follow Route 197 for 19 miles when you will take an unpaved road to the left. A mission sign marks this junction. Proceed 3 miles to the mission. Present personnel includes David and Mildred Skiles and family; Alvin and Mary Ellen Chupp and family, and Edith Moss. Visitors would be wise to notify mission in advance. Address, P.O. Box 188, Cuba, New Mexico 87013. Please contact for further information.



No affliction would trouble a child of God, if he knew God's reasons for sending it.



There can be no greater mistake than that of stopping to worry over a mistake already made.

WILL KNOW AT LAST?

"I do not know why He should His all resign
And suffered death to hide my wretched past;
But this I know: His priceless love is mine,
And His dear voice will tell me all at last."



An idle man can be compared to a house that has no walls - the devil may enter on every side.



Each verse from the Bible committed to memory becomes an arrow of defense against Satan.



A SURE PROMISE

In the common round of duty
Lift thy heart in praise;
For the Lord hath surely promised
Strength for all thy days.



If God's light is shining on you, it will be sure to be seen by somebody who is traveling in the dark.



Noah built the ark without an ocean to swim it in. Such faith will triumph over every difficulty and master every situation.



A friend is one who knows all about you and loves you just the same.

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BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LIII

FEBRUARY 15, 1975

NO. 4

"For the faith once for all delivered to the saints."

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

ENOUGH FOR ME

I am so weak, dear Lord, I cannot stand
One moment without Thee;
But, oh, the tenderness of Thine enfolding!
And, oh, the faithfulness of Thine upholding!
And, oh, the strength of Thy right hand!
That strength is enough for me.

I am so needy, Lord, and yet I know
All fullness dwells in Thee;
And hour by hour, that never failing treasure
Supplies and fills in overflowing measure,
My least and greatest need, and so
Thy grace is enough for me.

It is so sweet to trust Thy Word alone.
I do not ask to see
The unveiling of Thy purpose, or the shining
Of future light on mysteries untwining.
Thy promise-roll is all my own-
Thy Word is enough for me.

— Frances Ridley Havergal

OUR CHRISTIAN DUTY

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God." Rom. 12:1,2.

God has showered His mercies and blessings upon us ever since we have had a being. He has watched over us, cared for us, therefore is it not reasonable that we should undertake to do His will? Are our bodies a living sacrifice unto Him? How can we be a living sacrifice? I believe we are a living sacrifice when He lives in your life and mine. Since God has been so good to us, surely we should concern ourselves as to what we could do for Him. The Psalmist asked, "What shall I render unto the Lord for all his benefits toward me? I will take the cup of salvation, and call upon the name of the Lord. I will pay my vows unto the Lord now in the presence of all His people."

The Word tells us that we need to be renewed in the spirit of our mind and to put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness. See Eph. 4:23,24. With a renewed mind also comes a new disposition, new sympathies, new conscience and new goals. As the Psalmist has written, "Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life." Prov. 4:23. There is a powerful hindrance in the form of the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life.

Each of us has a duty to ourselves. In Rom. 12:3, we are not to think more highly than we ought to think, but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith. In other words many think too meanly of themselves, but more are likely to think too highly of themselves. "For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself." Gal. 6:3.

THE BIBLE MONITOR

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We are to use God's gifts in a sober manner. We shouldn't be proud of the talents God has given, but neither should we bury them. We are members of one body and members one of another. It seems evident that we are to use our gifts according to the grace given us, whether that be prophecy, the ministry, teaching, exhorting, ruling, showing mercy, or whatever it may be. There is something each can do.

In Rom. 12:9-18, we learn how we should treat those of the household of faith, with whom we worship from time to time.

Then we recognize that we have a duty to those who are our enemies. Since men became enemies to God, they are apt to become enemies to each other. I believe it is true that those who embrace religion are more apt to have enemies. We are to recompense to no man evil for evil. Vs. 19, "Avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; i will repay, saith the Lord." We must not only do no hurt to our enemies, but as Christians do them all the good we can.

"Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good."



ENCOURAGEMENT

Heb. 12:1, "Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us."

It is quite possible that we may get the impression that these witnesses are condemning us. I believe however, the Christians who are striving to live in accord with the Word of God have a wonderful encouragement. As we look at the reason for which they endured, it is for the same purpose for which we are striving, thus we become co-workers. The record we have of those on God's honour roll is sufficient to prove to us that they in their life time chose rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season. See Heb. 11:25. Why? "For he had respect unto the recompence of the reward." Heb. 11:26b.

Col. 3:1, "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God." Thus we believe that when we have put on the Lord Jesus Christ our desire should be to labour for the things which are above. Now these witnesses that lived years ago had that same desire. We can read of their lives in the Scriptures to prove to us that this hope can be accomplished, not of our own-selves, but by the help of our Lord.

Now, for the other side of the picture: "By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith." These witnesses are a condemnation to those who do not believe in the blood of Jesus Christ, neither are concerned about following His Word. Can we believe anything else? I believe Noah in just preparing the ark to the saving of his house was a condemnation without saying a word. Thus I believe today that if we live a life that is pleasing to Jesus, our lives alone condemn the world without us saying one word.

Heb. 12:2, "Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God." This is what faith and hope can do for us. It can give us that joy unspeakable and full of glory that is spoken of by the Apostle Peter.

Phil. 2:5, "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus." When we look unto Jesus, with the full surrender of our lives unto Him, we can have that mind to endure the things that would try and tempt us to do otherwise. I Cor. 15:19, "If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable."

Our faith and hope tells us there is something different on the other side of death. The Word of God tells us so. When we act by faith we have that assurance given us that we are the sons of God. That hope is built in something solid that will not fade away. As the poet has said, "On Christ the solid rock I stand, all other ground is sinking sand."

Now, thinking back to those witnesses we can thank our Heavenly Father for the evidence we have. To me it is almost like a picture we might present. They are the beckoning hands that would beckon us onward toward the prize. Considering the greatness of this prize, certainly we can say as the Apostle Paul, "But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ." Phil. 3:7,8.

After all, just how much value is there to the carnal things of life? It could be very, very possible that we today are not placing enough value on the spiritual things and too much value on the carnal things of life. Let us remember the old motto, "Only one life, will soon be past, Only what's done for Christ will last."

— Brother Melvin C. Roesch
R. 1, Box 156, West Unity, Ohio 43570

GOD'S CHOSEN PEOPLE

The world had drifted far into sin. God wanted a people who would love and serve Him. He called Abram out from his people to a land that He would give him. "Now the Lord had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee: And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed." Gen. 12:1-3. God made a wonderful promise to Abram and he obeyed God, doubting nothing.

As Abram journeyed here and there God would renew His promise, yet Abram had no heir. As the Lord renewed His promise to Abram, He told him his seed would be as the stars of heaven, and who can number them. But Abram went on taking God at His Word. We have wonderful promises in God's Word, and our inheritance is much greater than the one that Abram received. Are we taking God at His Word as Abram, or are we letting Satan beguile us, and cause us to lose our home in Heaven for a few trifling things on earth?

At last Isaac was born who brought much joy to Abram and Sarah. Then God tried his faith by asking him to offer his only son Isaac as a burnt-offering unto God. Abram did not question God's command, but went on obediently to do the things God has asked of him. Even Isaac asked where is the sacrifice? "And Isaac spake unto Abraham his father, and said, My father: and he said, Here am I, my son. and he said, Behold the fire and the wood: but where is the lamb for a burnt-offering? And Abraham said, My son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt-offering: so they went both of them together." Gen. 22:7-8.

This was a trying time for Abraham, yet he did not falter, but went so far as to bind Isaac and lay him on the altar, and took the knife in his hand to slay Isaac. The angel of the Lord called unto him out of heaven and said, "Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him: for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me." Are we taking God at His Word? Or do we listen to Satan when he says we need not to obey all the commands in God's Word.

The time came that Abraham was concerned about a wife for Isaac, so he called his most faithful servant to go find a wife for his son. Before Abraham sent his servant, he made him make a vow that he would not take a virgin of the Canaanites, but of the land where Abraham came from. The servant went and when he got to the well outside of the city,

he prayed to the Lord to shew him the virgin he was to choose. As he was praying Rebekah came to draw water; she was the daughter of Bethuel, the son of Nahor, the brother of Abraham. He was taken to Nahor's home, and they set meat before him, but he could not eat until he had told his errand. And when Rebekah was called, and was told the servant's errand, she said, "I will go." Are we willing to go when we are called?

There are a few comparisons to make. Abraham, the type of God; Isaac, the type of Christ; the Servant, the type of the Holy Spirit; and Rebekah, the type of the Church.

As time had passed, God's chosen people had drifted far into sin, yet God loved them. "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16. Jesus lived here on the earth and taught the plan of salvation that through Him we can have eternal life. He gave His life on the cross, a ransom for the sins of the world.

God then sent the Holy Spirit into the world to prepare his people for the Bride of Christ. Jesus is coming, but we know not when. The Spirit is pleading that we may be ready when Jesus comes.

When a virgin was betrothed to her husband, she had a mark of distinction that others may know her. So it is with the Christians. Just before Christ was crucified he prayed to the Father for His disciples. "I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil. They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world." John 17:15-18. Jesus has fulfilled His mission, now His followers are to carry on the work. "Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty." II Cor. 6:17-18. Do we want to be a son and daughter of our Father in Heaven?

The Christians are a called-out people. The Apostle says to come out from among them (the world), and be ye separate, and not take part in all the sinful things of the world. There are many unclean things, such as worldly amusements, the fashions of the world, and the unclean talk. There are many more things but all will come under these three. The world may think that we do not have any pleasure in life. The Christian

life is a pleasant life; there are many hidden joys and pleasures that the world cannot see. The closer we live to the teachings of Christ the more joy we have. The Apostle Peter went through many trials and persecutions while here on earth. In his epistle he says, "Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light." I Peter 2:9.

Now Satan is turned into an angel of light, teaching it is not necessary to obey all the plain teachings of the Bible. They were meant for the apostles; if that is true, then was Heaven only meant for them? They say times have changed, yes, it is true times have changed, but God's Word has not changed. His Word is forever settled in Heaven. When we try to change it we will find our lamps are going out as did the foolish virgins, and then it will be too late.

— Sister Ivone Diehl

10910 Old Dayton Rd., New Lebanon, Ohio 45345

ANSWERED PRAYERS

Part 8

Ministers of the Gospel need to pray to God to give them boldness to preach the Word. We are living in a very serious time. Many are falling away from the faith. There is much deception, even behind the pulpit.

Many cults and factions are springing up. Modernism is taking over the churches of our land. The simple life is not considered necessary. Separation from the world is mocked at. Ministers who continue to preach sound doctrine are asked to resign.

God demands loyalty to His cause. He wants his ministers to be true, loyal stewards. He wants His ministers to do exactly what the Apostle Paul admonished Timothy, "Preach the Word."

In the light of the present day trend, and in the light of the responsibility of the ministry it is very needful that a minister spend time in prayer to God for the needed message, and for the guidance of the Holy Spirit that he may be given boldness to speak.

In the fourth chapter of Acts we find the apostles were confronted with similar situations. They prayed to God to grant them boldness to preach the Gospel in the face of serious opposition they were receiving.

Peter and John were bold in their preaching. They gave the Word of God straight from the shoulder. They were accosted and warned not to speak or teach in the name of Jesus. Peter and John reasoned with their accusers, whether it would be right in the sight of God to listen to them or

unto God. They said, "We cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard."

Acts 4:23, "And being let go, they went to their own company, and reported all that the chief priests and elders had said unto them." When their own company heard their report, they went to God in prayer. I believe they prayed for more boldness. I believe they prayed that God's will might be done. I believe they prayed for divine guidance. I believe they prayed that they might preach the Word with more power.

God heard their prayers and answered them. Acts 4:31. "And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness." Their speaking with boldness, given to them in answer to their prayers, changed the lives of the people. Read Acts 4:32-37.

It pays to pray.

— Brother Paul R. Myers
Box 117, Greentown, Ohio 44630

IF ALL ELSE FAILS

If all else fails, read the directions! How often have you heard that remark? Did you ever wonder why we don't read the directions until we've already made a mistake, or many mistakes?

Recently, I started to make a dress with a new pattern labeled "fast and easy." I took it at face value and proceeded to sew. I came to a point where I knew I needed further instruction and upon reading, I discovered I had already made a mistake. My real mistake was in not reading the directions first.

How often do you find yourself trying to construct your life without first reading the directions? God's Word provides us with all the directions we need for a holy, peaceful life in Him, but it will not help us until we read it. "Faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God." Romans 10:17.

I read the sewing instructions, then expressed my faith by following them. (It wouldn't have done any good to read them if I hadn't.) Sewing instructions are given, assuming that you already know some basic principles or will have a teacher overseeing your work.

God's word doesn't assume that you already know how to live for Him. In it are the very simplest, basic principles, as well as the fine points of Christian living. Best of all, He will help us follow His instructions. He didn't just put them on paper and expect us to be successful on our own.

We can, and should, pray for His help and can rest assured it will be given. "The meek will he guide in judgment; and the meek will he teach his way," Psalm 25:9.

A garment can be constructed very simply, yet be perfect in every detail. The simplicity adds to its beauty. So it is with a child of God. The "construction" of daily living for Christ, with each day adding a simple detail of perfection will, in due time, reveal a beautiful life.

As the pattern label "fast and easy" held more meaning than I first thought, so Christ meant more when He said, "My yoke is easy, and my burden is light," Matthew 11:30. He expects us to read the complete instructions, then follow them. Letting the Word sink deeply into your heart will bring out the real beauty in you. When your life is wholly dedicated to Him, He will construct the "inner you" so your life will be filled with love, compassion, peace and joy.

If all else in your life has not failed, it will sooner or later. So read His directions now and take Him at His Word. Then you will be perfect - not in yourself - but in Him. He does not fail!

— Sister Eileen Broadwater

TO EACH SISTER THIS MAY CONCERN

After I finished reading the article, "To The Unknown Daughter" in the November 1, 1974 Bible Monitor, I felt sad because it concerned a "plain" girl.

The article wasn't written to a worldly girl. No, the sad, heart-breaking fact was that it was written to a girl with a prayer covering on! I wish it were so that each young sister in the church could have read it and thought, "I'm glad that couldn't have been me!"

But instead, dear sister, did your cheeks burn with shame, as you realized that it could have been you? You, causing a young man to commit adultery in his heart, helping to send him to hell? And in the process sending yourself there, too?

Mothers, did you give thanks in your heart, knowing it couldn't have been your daughter, because she dresses modestly and in accordance with Church policies? Or were you grieved, too, knowing it could very well have been your daughter?

Yes, truly my heart is grieved, because there are some very dear to me who seem to feel no need to dress according to the Bible and Church standards. How, dear sister, can you feel safe, with a covering on your head and practically nothing on your legs? Do you think God hears you when you pray just because you have a covering on? Maybe not. God is consistent. We have no right to ask God for anything, even the protection of the angels, if our bodies are not properly covered. All the time. Not just on Sunday, or whenever you think another member might see you.

We are instructed to "Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves..." Hebrews 13:17. If you're not obeying church standards, you must be ashamed of them. In so being, you are being ashamed of Christ. "Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels." Mark 8:38. He will deny that person, and the denied will have no place in Heaven.

If you could each realize what a small sacrifice it is to dress plainly, and to live decently and uprightly, because, dear sister, have you considered the length of eternity?

Prayerfully and humbly submitted,

— Sister Freda Heisey
1021 S. Clay St., Troy, Ohio 45373

CHILDREN'S PAGE

JACOB SENDS BENJAMIN TO EGYPT

Gen. 43

The brothers of Joseph returned to their father, Jacob, with a message from Egypt. Joseph had kept Simeon as a guarantee that if the brothers returned again that they would bring back their youngest brother, Benjamin. Jacob didn't want to let him go because he thought Joseph was dead and Benjamin was the only son left of his favorite wife, Rachel. But the famine became worse in the land. The ground was dry and no rain came. The grain that they planted would not come up or if it did it soon withered. Food was hard to get and finally the situation was desperate and Jacob decided that they would have to go again to Egypt for corn. The brothers said that it would be useless to go unless Benjamin went along. The ruler of Egypt had said, "Bring your youngest brother unto me and you will prove you are not spies and you shall not die."

Jacob finally consented to let Benjamin go and Reuben promised to take care of him. Jacob sent along a present for the ruler of Egypt. He sent some of the most expensive things they had, balm, honey, spices, myrrh, nuts, and almonds. Where they got all these things I don't know, but Jacob was a rich man and he probably had obtained these luxuries before the famine.

The brothers returned to Egypt. When Joseph saw his brother, Benjamin, he told his servant to prepare a feast so that his brothers could eat.

The brothers were taken to Joseph's home and I can imagine how they felt. Here was the most important man in Egypt. He was very rich and his house was the most luxurious that they had ever seen.

When Joseph came unto his brothers they gave him the present that Jacob had sent and bowed before Joseph as the custom was in Egypt. Joseph asked them if their father was well and he released Simeon who had stayed behind. And then Joseph saw his brother, Benjamin. It had been thirteen years since Joseph had been sold by his brothers. He loved them so much that he went into another room and wept. After he had washed his face so they couldn't see he had been crying, Joseph came back and they sat down to eat. Joseph had them sit down according to their age from the oldest to the youngest. The brothers marvelled at how this great man could know their ages.

Joseph had a great love for his brothers even though they at one time wanted to kill him. Can we love our enemies? Jesus says to love your enemies and do good to them that hate you. We ought to love everybody.

— Brother Rudy Cover

NEWS ITEMS

YOUNG MEN

From the Dunkard Brethren Church who have been classified 1-H, are here listed:-

Timothy Alspaugh	Dennis D. Myers
Michael Burkholder	Samuel W. Noecker, Jr.
Raymond Burkholder	David L. Reed
Denzel Carpenter	Galen L. Stauffer
Joe Flory	Glen L. Stauffer
Marlin Kegerreis	Delbert Swihart
Dale E. Longenecker	James Wolfe

All men must register when reaching the age of 18 years. All are put into Class 1-H, a holding classification. Registrants will not be disturbed unless the DRAFT is re-activated.

If any name is omitted here, it is because I have not been advised of your classification.

— RAY S. SHANK, Executive Secretary, Dillsburg, Pa. 17019
Civilian Service Board, Dunkard Brethren Church

BETHEL, PENNSYLVANIA

The Bethel Dunkard Brethren Church plans to engage in a Spring Revival in the Frystown Church House, Frystown, Pennsylvania. These services will continue from March 23 to April 6. We plan to have Elder Dean St. John as the speaker. Our desire is to see souls saved and believers strengthened. Please pray for these meetings and arrange to attend.

— Sister Mary Hartz, Cor.



CERES, CALIFORNIA

Brother Jack Snyder of Lititz, Pennsylvania, came into the Pleasant Home Congregation, November 3 through 17, to hold a Revival Meeting.

Timothy Walker came forward, and was baptized during these meetings.

We were happy to have Sister Miriam, and their son, Curtis, here for the last ten days of the Revival. Also, Brother Verling and Sister Fern Wolfe, Brother Jim Wolfe, Sister Anita Wolfe, Brother Ted Snyder, Sister Eva Snyder, and Sister Kathy Snyder were here from Pennsylvania.

The services were well attended by our members and friends.

— Sister Esther M. Cover, Cor.

NOTE OF THANKS

Because of the impossibility of acknowledging all the letters, phone calls, and expressions of sympathy received during the illness and death of my husband, Otis, I take this means of thanking each and every one. May God bless each of you.

— Sister Edith Silknitter

NOTE OF THANKS

I wish to thank all who remembered me with cards, letters, gifts, visits, and prayers during my recovery from an auto accident. May God bless each and every one.

— Sister Ada Whitman, West Millgrove, Ohio 43467



THANK YOU

We wish to express our thanks to every one for the cards, prayers, and kindness shown during the sickness and death of our wife and mother. May God bless each one.

— Brother Ray Rensberger and Family

OBITUARIES

EARL M. KENDALL

Son of Joseph and Annie (Mast) Kendall was born on December 22, 1887, in Howard County, near Greentown, Indiana. He departed this life on January 7, 1975, in the Kokomo Nursing Home, at the age of 87 years, and 16 days.

On January 30, 1909, he was married to Mary B. Lorenz, who preceded him in death on September 16, 1970.

Early in life he was baptized into the Church of the Brethren and later became a charter member of the Dunkard Brethren Church at Plevna, Indiana, to which he was an active and faithful member as long as health permitted. He served many years as a deacon.

Surviving are one daughter, Mrs. William (Annabel) Myers; one granddaughter, Elaine Myers of Elkhart, Indiana; two brothers, Oscar of Greentown, and Harry of Southgate, Michigan.

Funeral services were conducted Friday, January 10, at 10:00 A.M., at the Plevna Dunkard Brethren Church. Elder Harley Rush officiated, assisted by Elder Walter Bird. Interment in the Mast Cemetery.

There comes a time for all of us
When we must say goodbye,
But faith and hope and love and trust
Can never, never die.
Although the curtain falls at last,
Is that a cause to grieve?
The future's fairer than the past
If only we believe.
And trust in God's eternal care
So when the Master calls,
Let's say that life is still more fair
Although the curtain falls.



Contentment is found not in having everything, but in being satisfied with what you have.



Of all wounds inflicted upon others, the hardest to heal are those made by the tongue.

OTIS DEWEY SILKNITTER

Son of Winfield and Chloe Silknitter was born in Stark County, Ohio, on March 7, 1898, and departed this life on January 1, 1975, at the Aultman Hospital, Canton, Ohio, after a long illness, at the age of 76 years, 9 months, and 24 days.

On December 2, 1922, he was married to Edith Greenho, and to this union one son was born.

While young in life, he gave his heart to the Lord, and united with the Church of the Brethren and later became a charter member of the Orion Dunkard Brethren Church. He was very conscientious in his Christian life, living to the best of his ability. For a number of years he served as a deacon in the Church.

He is survived by his wife, Edith; one son, Carl, Union, Ohio; three grandchildren; one great-granddaughter; two brothers, Alvin of East Rochester, Ohio, Paul of Clinton, Ohio; two sisters, Mrs. Ida Greenho, Mrs. Ethel Hartman, both of Akron, Ohio; and other relatives and friends.

Funeral services were conducted Saturday, January 4, at 1 P.M., at the Button Funeral Home, in Greentown, Ohio. Elder Melvin Roesch officiated, assisted by Elder Paul Myers. Burial in Greensburg Cemetery.

As I travel on life's journey to the City bright and fair,
 Tho sometimes it seems that I have troubles to bear;
 I can call on Christ my Saviour, knowing He will answer prayer,
 He is near, this Friend so dear, and waiting to welcome me there.
 I am going home to live with Jesus in that City so bright and fair;
 I'll live with Him forever, and His glory with loved ones share.
 Around the Father's throne in glory, precious loved ones for me wait;
 And it won't be very long until I'll go through the gate.
 There within the Holy City I shall meet them all once more;
 And with them I'll live again on Heaven's bright beautiful shore.
 That will be a great reunion over on the Heav'nly shore,
 And there'll be no bitter tears, and partings will be o'er.
 We shall clasp the hand of Jesus, and know as we are known,
 And we'll sing forever around the bright, beautiful throne.



If we ask with conviction, seek with understanding, and knock with expectancy, many closed doors will be opened to us.



Our prayer and God's mercy are like two buckets in a well. While one ascends, the other descends.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

LESSONS FOR MARCH

March 2— "More Than Conquerors." Rom 5:1-21

March 9— Servants of Sin or Servants of Christ. Rom 6:1-23

March 16— Salvation in Christ to All Who Believe. Rom. 10:1-21

March 23— Salvation Cometh unto the Gentiles. Rom. 11:1-36

March 30— The Resurrection. Mark 16:1-20

QUESTIONS:

(1) How can we be free from the law of sin and death? (the old law) Rom. 8:2

(2) Why did not Israel attain to righteousness? Rom. 9:31,32

(3) Why was Israel, as a nation, ignorant of God's righteousness? Rom. 10:3,16

(4) How will Israel profit from salvation being given to the Gentiles? Rom. 11:11,12

(5) How could Jesus appear in another form to the two who were going to Emmaus? Mark 16:12; Mat. 28:18; Mat. 19:26



It is not necessary to blow out your neighbor's light, in order to let your own shine.



Death is the end of the chapter on time, but it is the beginning of the next chapter eternity.



There are no accidents in God's dealings. All things have divine purpose.

DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR MARCH 1975

COME

Memory Verse, II Sam. 6:9

And David was afraid of the Lord that day, and said, How shall the ark of the Lord come to me?

Sat. 1 - I. Sam. 23:1-28

Memory Verse, II Sam. 15:4

Absalom said moreover, Oh that I were made judge in the land, that every man which hath any suit or cause might come unto me, and I would do him justice!

Sun. 2 - I Sam. 24:1-22

Mon. 3 - I Sam. 26:1-25

Tues. 4 - I Sam. 31:1-13

Wed. 5 - II Sam. 1:1-27

Thurs. 6 - II Sam. 6:1-19

Fri. 7 - II Sam. 10:1-19

Sat. 8 - II Sam. 15:1-37

Memory Verse, II Sam. 24:21

And Araunah said, Wherefore is my lord the king come to his servant? And David said, To buy the threshingfloor of thee, to build an altar unto the Lord, that the plague may be stayed from the people.

Sun. 9 - II Sam. 17:1-29

Mon. 10 - II Sam. 19:1-43

Tues. 11 - II Sam. 24:1-25

Wed. 12 - I Kings 3:1-28

Thurs. 13 - I Kings 6:1-38

Fri. 14 - I Kings 8:1-30

Sat. 15 - I Kings 8:31-61

Memory Verse, I Kings 3:7

And now, O Lord my God, thou hast made thy servant king instead of David my father; and I am but a little child; I know not how to go out or come in.

Sun. 16 - I Kings 10:1-29

Mon. 17 - I Kings 12:1-33

Tues. 18 - I Kings 13:1-34

Wed. 19 - I Kings 14:1-20

Thurs. 20 - I Kings 17:1-24

Fri. 21 - I Kings 18:21-46

Sat. 22 - I Kings 20:1-21

Memory Verse, I Kings 18:30

And Elijah said unto all the people, Come near unto me. And all the people came near unto him. And he repaired the altar of the Lord that was broken down.

Sun. 23 - I Kings 20:22-43

Mon. 24 - I Kings 22:1-28

Tues. 25 - I Kings 22:29-50

Wed. 26 - II Kings 1:1-18

Thurs. 27 - II Kings 4:1-37

Fri. 28 - II Kings 5:1-27

Sat. 29 - II Kings 6:1-33

Memory Verse, II Kings 5:8

And it was so, when Elisha the man of God had heard that the king of Israel had rent his clothes, that he sent to the king, saying, Wherefore has thou rent thy clothes? let him come now to me, and he shall know that there is a prophet in Israel.

Sun. 30 - II Kings 7:1-20

Mon. 31 - II Kings 14:1-29

Memory Verse, II Kings 5:11

But Naaman was wroth, and went away, and said, Behold, I thought, He will surely come out to me, and stand, and call on the name of the Lord his God, and strike his hand over the place, and recover the leper.

Paul R. Myers
Box 117
Greentown, Ohio 44631

BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LIII

MARCH 1, 1975

NO. 5

"For the faith once for all delivered to the saints."

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

ONE DAY AT A TIME

One day at a time, with its failures and fears,
With its hurts and mistakes, with its weakness and tears,
With its portion of pain and its burden of care;
One day at a time we must meet and must bear.

One day at a time to be patient and strong;
To be calm under trial and sweet under wrong;
Then its toiling shall pass and its sorrow shall cease;
It shall darken and die, and the night shall bring peace.

One day at a time -- but the day is so long,
And the heart is not brave, and the soul is not strong,
O Thou pitiful Christ, be Thou near all the way;
Give courage and patience and strength for the day.

Not yesterday's load we are called on to bear,
Nor the morrow's uncertain and shadowy care;
Why should we look forward or back with dismay?
Our needs, as our mercies, are but for the day.

One day at a time, and the day is His day;
He hath numbered its hours, though they haste or delay.
His grace is sufficient; we walk not alone;
As the day, so the strength that He giveth His own.

- Annie Johnson Flint

IS THERE A GOD?

Is there a God? Can any one doubt the existence of a Supreme Being? On every hand we are confronted with positive evidences of His existence and power. What are we to understand by the earth, sun, moon, and all the stars? What do we think about the planets of our solar system, that revolve about the sun with absolute regularity? Well may it be said: "The heavens declare the glory of God." The solar system alone proves the existence of an Overruling and Intelligent Mind. Everything we behold works with the utmost precision, -- an accuracy unknown in any device of man. A planet, in its course around the sun, varies not a second in a thousand years. The heavenly bodies most assuredly show the handiwork of God. Can any thinking man look up at the starry heavens, behold the movements of the celestial orbs, and yet doubt the existence of a God? Then think of man, -- his intelligence, his aspirations and the yearnings of his heart. The best and the noblest there is in man cries out after a being greater than himself. The idea of a God is innate with man. It is a very part of him. He cannot get away from the thought. Yes, there is a god. This is the verdict of the best minds the world has ever produced.

Because of this conviction that there is a God, eight devout men and women residing in Schwarzenau, Germany in 1708, met from day to day to study the Scriptures, with a view of ascertaining the will of God, as set forth in the Sacred Volume. They put aside all creeds and confessions of faith, that they might be free to accept the whole truth as it came to them.

After studying the Word for months, it became evident that there was no body of people in all Europe, known to them, who, in their faith and practice, lined up with the form of doctrine enjoined upon the followers of Christ. After much earnest prayer it occurred to them that they could do

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no wiser thing than to form themselves into a working body, and to restore to the church, thus constituted, the primitive order of worship and service. Being of one mind and heart, regarding the teachings of the Gospel, they cut loose from all former church affiliations, agreed together in accepting the New Testament as their rule of faith and practice, and proceeded to carry out, step by step, what the Inspired Volume demands.

Early one morning they went to the near-by river Eder, were buried with Christ in baptism, and the same day organized themselves into a Christian body, made choice of Alexander Mack as their minister, and began to preach and put into practice what they conceived to be the "all things" set forth in the Written Word. Having settled on the New Testament as their rule in all religious affairs, it was an easy matter to accept the light as it came to them.

They builded better than they knew. The reform movement spread, and hundreds accepted the faith, but on account of persecution practically the whole membership emigrated to America from 1719 to 1729. The plea of these earnest people was well received, and since then churches have been organized from the Atlantic to the Pacific; Conferences have been formed; missions have been opened, church and Sunday school activities put into operation.

"The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God," but, people with the conviction, there is a God, do something about it.

- Condensed from New Testament Doctrines

- Brother Bob Carpenter

THE GREAT SUPPER

This parable is found in Luke 14:16-24. I believe the gospel is here represented by a feast, and carries the thoughts of liberal preparation for all the needs of the sinner. A great supper was prepared and many were bidden, which indicated it was some great person who gave the supper.

In the conduct of those invited we see the unbelief of the Jews to whom Christ came. Because of unbelief of the Jews, the offer of salvation was extended to the Gentiles and all men are bidden to come and partake freely.

Let us notice the time of the invitation -- at supper time, near the close of the day. Notice the nature of the invitation, "Come, for all things are now ready." Vs. 17. They were invited to partake of the provisions freely.

Yet they rejected the invitation. "And they all with one consent

began to make excuse." Apparently, all were actuated with the same spirit -- slumber. This illustrates the rejection of the Saviour by the Jewish people. "He came unto his own, and his own received him not." John 1:11. All of them began to make excuse. One had bought some ground and must go see it. His heart was so set upon his purchase he couldn't enjoy a feast. He desired to look upon his field. How he coveted that field! At last it is his own. "How hardly shall they that have riches enter into the kingdom of God!" Mark 10:23.

Then the man that purchased five yoke of oxen felt he had to try them. Now it is one thing to be diligent in business, but quite another to be so wrapped up in our own interests that we forget God. We are not to be slothful in business, but fervent in spirit serving the Lord. Rom. 12:11.

Another, married a wife therefore he couldn't come. A husband should love and care for his wife. How beautiful is a home where there is affection and courtesy. But a husband or a wife is not an idol and neither are to displace God.

In vs. 21, the servant came and told the Lord these things. Then the master of the house was angry and said to his servant, go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in hither, the poor, and the maimed, the halt, and the blind. No longer was the invitation extended to only the privileged, but to the Gentiles as well.

Notice how kind were the arrangements for the poor, maimed, halt, blind, the perishing, the unfortunate. Still there was yet room. The servant told the Lord and the servant was sent out into the highways and hedges to compel them to come in that the house might be filled.

The Master was displeased with those who didn't come "...for none of those men which were bidden shall taste of my supper." I believe this parable indicates that in the gospel there is abundant provision for all the spiritual needs of man. It is God's will that none should perish but that all should come unto the knowledge of the truth. Is it not in our own duty and interest to gratefully obey the invitation?

JESUS

As Jesus nears the end of His ministry, He knew His work would soon be finished. Because of this He gave most of His attention to His followers, to those who had heard and believed His teaching. By many miracles and parables He showed them their need, as well as who He was and why He came.

Six days before the passover, Jesus came to Bethany on His way to Jerusalem. Here in Bethany lived Mary and Martha, and Lazarus whom He loved. It was this Lazarus that Jesus had raised from the dead, even though he had been dead four days. They also loved Jesus for "There

they made him a supper; and Martha served: but Lazarus was one of them that sat at the table with him. Then took Mary a pound of ointment of spikenard, very costly, and anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped his feet with her hair: and the house was filled with the odour of the ointment." John 12:2, 3. This must have been a wonderful evening, one that is still not forgotten.

To Judas Iscariot it must have been otherwise, for he had his mind on the price of the ointment. He thought the ointment should have been sold for three hundred pence, and given to the poor. "Then said Jesus, Let her alone: against the day of my burying hath she kept this." John 12:7. Once again, Jesus reminded them of His soon coming death, the death on the cross.

The next day Jesus started for Jerusalem. When the people heard He was coming they took branches of palm trees and went to meet Him, crying, "Hosanna: Blessed is the King of Israel that cometh in the name of the Lord."

It was after this that Jesus with His twelve disciples went to the upper room. Here with those He loved, He set forth doctrines that have brought joy to all who have continued in them. First was the feet washing and supper, and take notice how well he gave the example.

"Now before the feast of the passover, when Jesus knew that his hour was come that he should depart out of this world unto the Father, having loved his own which were in the world, he loved them unto the end. And supper being ended, the devil having now put into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him; Jesus knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he was come from God, and went to God; He riseth from supper, and laid aside his garments; and took a towel, and girded himself. After that he poureth water into a basin, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel wherewith he was girded.

"Then cometh he to Simon Peter: and Peter saith unto him, Lord, dost thou wash my feet? Jesus answered and said unto him, What I do thou knowest not now; but thou shalt know hereafter. Peter saith unto him, Thou shalt never wash my feet. Jesus answered him, If I wash thee not, thou hast no part with me. Simon Peter saith unto him, Lord, not my feet only, but also my hands and my head.

"Jesus saith to him, He that is washed needeth not save to wash his feet, but is clean every whit: and ye are clean, but not all. For he knew who should betray him; therefore said he, Ye are not all clean.

"So after he had washed their feet, and had taken his garments, and was set down again, he said unto them, Know ye what I have done to you? Ye call me Master and Lord: and ye say well; for so I am. If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you.

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord; neither he that is sent greater than he that sent him. If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them." John 13:1-17.

If we know these things, we are happy if we do them. Yet Jesus said in the next verse, "I speak not of you all: I know whom I have chosen: but that the scripture may be fulfilled, He that eateth bread with me hath lifted up his heel against me...Verily, verily, I say unto you, that one of you shall betray me." The disciples wondered who this could be. "Jesus answered, He it is, to whom I shall give a sop, when I have dipped it. And when he had dipped the sop, he gave it to Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon. And after the sop Satan entered into him. Then said Jesus unto him, That thou doest, do quickly...He then having received the sop went immediately out: and it was night." John 13:26, 27, 30. So Judas left Jesus and the rest of the disciples.

We learn from Mark, "and as they did eat, Jesus took bread, and blessed, and brake it, and gave to them, and said, Take, eat: this is my body. And he took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them: and they all drank of it. And he said unto them, This is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many." Mark 14:22-24.

The Apostle Paul said, "For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread: And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me. After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me. For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come." I Cor. 11:23-26.

We also learn that after Judas left the upper room, Jesus gave the disciples a new commandment, "A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." John 13:34, 35.

Let us remember that Jesus was on His Way to the cross when he gave these wonderful instructions and commandments. No wonder when we come together to carry out these instructions we call it Lovefeast. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.

Where does this leave you? Are you walking in the light, as He is in the light? Or have you gone out in the darkness with Judas? Jesus invites you to meet him at the cross.

- Brother H. Edward Johnson
R. 5, Box 76, Wauseon, Ohio 43567

THINGS NECESSARY TO LAY ASIDE

We want to give just a portion of a verse from Heb. 12:1. "Let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us." We understand the Scriptures to teach us that sin cannot enter Heaven. Since Adam and Eve sinned in the Garden of Eden sin has been before us, and Satan the great deceiver is trying to wreck the plan of God.

In God's plan to reconcile the world or people in the world, He gave His only begotten Son to be sin for us. II Cor. 5:21, "For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him." Vs. 17 of this same chapter, we read, "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." In other words, when we have been baptized into Christ, the Scriptures teach us that our sins have been washed away. But Satan is still around the corner, not only that but the Apostle Peter refers to him as a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Paul tells us that Satan has transformed himself into a minister of righteousness.

Thus the deceptive plans of Satan are all around us, but the Lord has not left us helpless. According to Paul's writings in Eph. 6, He has given us the whole armour of God. We do not fight against flesh and blood, but against spiritual wickedness in high places. Vs. 11, "Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil." Now, in I John 3:9, "Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God." Again, in I John 1:8,9, "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." I think if we compare a couple of these Scriptures, we will find that we do have shortcomings in life. James 5:19, 20, "Brethren, if any of you do err from the truth, and one convert him; Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins." Paul says in Rom. 6:12, "Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof."

Now under Paul's writing, I am convinced that we should be very, very careful that sin does not reign in our mortal body. To me that means to the extent of ruling, and when anything rules does not it mean a complete take over? I believe if we have a conscience that is set by the Word of God we will know when we make mistakes. Then it is up to us to confess them to Christ and repent of them. It is only Jesus that can cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Certainly, we desire to walk in the light as He is in the light.

There are many kinds of sin or many things that are sin. The Scripture teaches us, "To him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to

him it is sin." Again, "All unrighteousness is sin." We are to lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us. Surely we know if we have sin; it is a burden to us until it is taken away. We want to think about the words, "so easily beset us." Is it possible that we can be so easily swayed or upset? The Psalmist has pictured a man as being like a tree planted by the rivers of waters. In the mountains during the winter time a heavy wet snow or ice storm will upset many of the pine trees, seemingly unable to stand the storms. It also can be that way with us. But again we can turn to the Word of God in Eph. 6, which tells us to put on the whole armour of God. We should be very thankful we can have this help and assurance. Also we must remember that it comes from the Lord and not of ourselves.

I Cor. 10:13, "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it." What a wonderful blessing it is that we can turn to God's Word for guidance, for comfort, and victory. As in Rom. 8:37-39, "Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

- Brother Melvin C. Roesch
R. 1, Box 156, West Unity, Ohio

TOO MUCH?

"That is too much of a good thing!" This statement reflects a desire to be temperate, but does it apply to Christian living? Or do we just have *too much* of the hindering qualities and not enough of His likeness in our hearts?

There is *too much* misguided thinking about sin. A person who thinks that one is a sinner because of bad language, loose morals, or other sinful activities, has missed the point. We are sinners because when we are born, the sinful nature is already within. The sinful acts follow because of that nature.

There is *too much* misunderstanding about how salvation is obtained. Giving up sinful things or doing good deeds will not obtain it for us, as the Pharisee thought (Luke 18). Only Christ can save us when we give up *ourselves*. "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God." Ephesians 2:8.

There is *too much* negative thinking about serving God. Along with His commands to turn from sin, He commands us to go, teach, sing, pray! His promises also are positive -- "He that endureth to the end shall be saved; Ask, and it shall be given you; I will never leave thee nor forsake thee." Likewise, our lives should be positive, busy in the Lord's work.

There is *too much* destructive criticism from those who profess to believe in Christ. It builds an attitude of "I might as well do what I want to because I'll be criticized anyhow." It causes discouragement so great that one new or weak in faith cannot rise above it. Constructive criticism seeks to help in a loving, compassionate way and must be based on mutual trust and respect.

There is *too much* of the Pharisee's approach to worship. They put on a show to receive praise of men, and judged themselves by other sinners, bragging to God about their good deeds. See Matthew 23. We are not heard for our much speaking any more than the Pharisees were. Remember the publican's prayer? A short prayer, devotional time, or sermon can be just as effective as a longer one if it meets the needs of the moment, and is inspired by the Spirit. God expects us to please Him, not man.

There is *too much* thinking that Christian living only means giving up this or that. It is a gaining life, not just a giving up one! We give up ourselves and gain Christ; we give up hate and gain love. We give up sorrow and gain joy; we give up confusion and gain peace. Best of all, we give up "death after life" for "life after death."

"And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God." Ephesians 3:19. When we know the love of Christ and are filled, it will not be *too much*, or too little, but just right. We will seek to follow His teachings and try to help our friends follow Him also. Let us accept what Christ has to offer, as we can't get *too much* of Him and His love.

- Sister Eileen Broadwater

GOD'S PURPOSES AND MAN'S FAILURES

In all of God's dealings with the children of men, His purposes seem to have been just, wise, and good, but in executing those purposes through man, many of them seem to have been failures.

God said, "My word shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it." Isa. 55:11. This is true in His purposes in which man is a factor to the extent that man is willing to be used by his Maker in the execution of his purposes, and is willing and actually plays the part that God designed that he should.

In the first account of God's dealings with man, His purpose was good, but man was a failure. And so Adam lost his primal state of purity and innocency, his home and his life plunged his posterity into ruin.

When God brought His people out of Egypt, His purpose to fulfill His promise to give them the land of Canaan was good, but man failed and only two of those above twenty years of age, who came out of Egypt, ever set foot in Canaan.

God's purpose in giving the law was wise and good, but man didn't keep it. While Moses was receiving the law on the Mount, Aaron and Israel were making a calf to worship and before the law was ratified by Israel, a man was found violating it -- picking up sticks on the Sabbath, a rest day, now for the first time given to mankind. The Law was good but man failed in not keeping it.

God's purpose in giving Israel a king at their request was a good one, at the same time telling them what the result would be, and most of us are familiar with the story of their first king, Saul.

God's purpose in settling Israel in Canaan was well meant and good, but man failed and in our fancy we hear their sighs in the land of captivity. Psa. 137:1-4, "By the rivers of Babylon, there we sat down, yea, we wept, when we remembered Zion. We hanged our harps upon the willows in the midst thereof. For there they that carried us away captive required of us a song; and they that wasted us required of us mirth, saying, Sing us one of the songs of Zion. How shall we sing the Lord's song in a strange land?" This is their pitiful wail of failure.

Just so, God's purpose with man all down through the Mosaic dispensation was wise and good, but from the first account of him in the garden, to the very last of the old dispensation as given by Malachi, man was a failure.

Again, God's purpose in sending a Redeemer and Saviour into the world in the person of His Son, "That whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life," was one of the very best, but man has failed. Even in Bible lands only a small percent have believed in Him. God in this way manifested His love for man, but man crucified the Redeemer, killed Him and cast Him out.

God's purpose in establishing His church as a home for His people, was wise and good, but how soon they began to drift! Israel's backslidings were not worse.

Dissensions arose because of innovations and departure. The loyal and faithful were persecuted by the dominant worldly party, and they fled to the dens and caves of the mountains to escape persecution at the hand of those who caused the dissensions and divisions. And so it has continued ever since. Who ever knew the loyal and faithful to cause dissensions and divisions?

Peter tells us of some who are "presumptuous, selfwilled, despise

government" and so powerful has their influence grown that there is very little government in the way of discipline any more, and one innovation and departure after another is being added year after year.

God's purpose likewise in bringing about a reformation and re-establishing the true faith of Jesus Christ in the world was well meant and good, and through Brother Alexander Mack the true faith was re-established, but Brother Mack would hardly recognize us now, and I'm not so sure if we would own him if he were to return. Why? Innovations and departures is the answer. Who is responsible? Are the loyal and faithful whose hearts are bleeding because of worldliness in the church? Most assuredly not. Would there ever have been, or could there ever be, dissension and division if all were loyal and faithful? Most certainly not. Then it is easy to see whence dissension and divisions come. In such case God's purpose is thwarted by the failure of man. Then, too, God's good purpose in planning a thousand years of peace on earth at the end of this age was well meant, but at the end the devil will be able to raise an army to "compass the camp of the saints", an army composed of men who will have made a failure. Truly, "God made man upright, but they have sought out many inventions" to thwart God's purposes, and have themselves proven failures.

- Brother B.E. Kessler from Bible Monitor
First Issue, October, 1922
Selected by Sister Sylvia Parker

ANSWERED PRAYERS

Part 9

Sometimes we feel that God does not hear our prayers. Sometimes He answers in part. He knows what is best for us presently and in the future.

The Word teaches that He does not tire of our oft coming to Him. Yet, He is not always persuaded to answer as we would like. An old soldier of the cross one time gave me this thought on prayer, "That God is so merciful that if He did not withhold at times what we pray for, we would be ruined at our own request."

God knows the future. He knows what His plans are for each of us in the future. Should He grant answers to the prayers we insist on it might upset His plans for us and we would be sacrificing the future for the present. We can rest assured, how He answers will be the best for us. It

will also be the best for His cause and plan here on earth.

I am thinking of a condition in the life of the Apostle Paul about which he prayed to Almighty God, as recorded in II Cor. 12:7-9. He had what he called a thorn in the flesh. Commentators have varied ideas as to what this thorn was. I will pass by their comments. Paul gives us a hint. He was a gifted man; he was a learned man; he was a powerful man for the cause of Christ.

Satan was not happy over Paul's successful ministry. Satan realized that Paul had divine revelations which Paul was using to good advantage against Satan. Paul concluded that to prevent his becoming exalted he was given a thorn in the flesh, "the messenger of Satan to buffet him."

Webster says buffet means to contend against; to strike repeatedly; to strive. In other words Satan was determined to counteract all the good Paul was trying to accomplish. He was attempting to discourage Paul.

In Romans 7:21, Paul made this statement, "I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me.

We read in I Thess. 2:18, "Wherefore we would have come unto you, even I Paul, once and again; but Satan hindered us."

The Apostle Paul labored under severe and trying conditions. Perhaps he tried to go on even under the handicap of the "thorn in the flesh", but he was aware that he was greatly hindered in his efforts for the Lord.

He went to God in prayer; he sought divine help. He prayed that the thorn might depart from him. Not only once did he pray about this matter, but he prayed three times for its removal.

Did God hear his prayer? Did He answer his prayer?

God heard and God answered. The substance of His answer was that I will not remove the thorn, but will give you grace sufficient to live and work with it.

Paul accepted this answer without complaint. When our prayers are not answered exactly as we wish let us resolve as Paul did and recorded in II Cor. 12:10, "Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake; for when I am weak, then am I strong."

- Brother Paul R. Myers
Box 117, Greentown, Ohio 44630



The best optimism in the world is "that blessed hope, the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour." Titus 2:13.

CHILDREN'S PAGE

BENJAMIN AND JOSEPH'S CUP

Gen. 44

How would you feel if an important man had lost something very valuable and it was found in your suitcase? Though you had never seen it before it would look like you had stolen it, wouldn't it? That was what happened to Benjamin, Joseph's youngest brother.

After dining with Joseph, (I suppose it was very early the next day) the brothers loaded up their animals with corn. Joseph told his servant to put every brothers money back in their sacks and to hide his special silver cup in Benjamin's sack. As soon as it was light they started for home. They had gone only a short way out of the city when the servant of Joseph came on the run and accused them of stealing his master's silver cup. Why had they done such a thing when his master had treated them so good?

The brothers were dumbfounded. They wouldn't have thought of doing such a thing. They even went so far as to say, "Search us and see. Whoever of us has this cup let him die and we will be your master's servants."

But the servant said, "No, nothing shall be required of any but the one who stole it. He shall be my master's servant."

So the search began. The brothers unloaded their sacks and opened it for Joseph's servant to search for the cup. The servant began at the oldest brother to the youngest. He searched everyone's sack but Benjamin's and nothing had been found but when he looked in Benjamin's sack, there it was -- the beautiful silver cup that Joseph had drunk from at the dinner with them. Imagine how they felt and especially, Benjamin. The brothers were terrified and loaded up their animals and returned back to the city.

They came again to Joseph's house and Joseph was still there. They fell on their faces before him on the ground. Then Joseph said, "What is this deed that you have done? Don't you know that a man like me could know everything you do?"

Judah replied, "What can we say? We are found guilty and God has revealed it unto you. We will all be your servants."

But Joseph said, "No, that wouldn't be fair. I will only take the one in whose hand the cup was found and he will be my servant."

Then Judah answered, "You are a great man and we have a father at

home who is old and this brother of ours with whom you found the cup is his favorite child. If you keep Benjamin here it will break his heart. He has already lost one son who was his favorite and this will be too much. When he hears this he will die. I had told my father that I would promise to see that he returned home safe and sound. Now I beg of you let me take his place and stay here in his stead."

Judah, who was jealous of Joseph years before had learned his lesson. Judah, though not guilty was willing to take the blame for a crime he had not done. This is what Jesus did for us when He died on the cross. Sometimes it takes some hard knocks to make us understand what love is all about.

- Brother Rudy Cover

NEWS ITEMS

DALLAS CENTER, IOWA

"The flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing of birds is come." Song of Solomon 2:12.

As the earth shows forth new life, may we also be renewed during our spring meetings. The Lord willing, the Dallas Center, Iowa, congregation will hold all day services on April 5 and 6. Our Lovefeast will be Saturday, April 5 at 7:30 p.m.

You are cordially invited to come worship and fellowship with us.

- Sister Juanita Reed, Cor.



WARDS, PENNSYLVANIA

In July, Brother David Kegerreis of Bethel, Pennsylvania, came into our midst for a week revival meeting. Brother Kegerreis's messages were full of inspiration and words of encouragement.

Although no additions were made to the church at this time, later there were two souls that made their wants known and were baptized.

May we go forth with a greater determination during the year to live closer to God is our prayer.

- Sister Angeline Mallow, Cor.

BETHEL, PENNSYLVANIA

The Bethel Dunkard Brethren Church wishes to announce spring Lovefeast services on April 27, in the Frystown Church House, Frystown, Pennsylvania. Services are to begin at 9:30 a.m. Please plan to spend the day with us as we serve the Lord together.

- Sister Mary Hartz, Cor.



PLEVNA, INDIANA

The Lord willing, District Meeting will be held at the Plevna congregation April 4 and 5. Our spring Communion Services will be Saturday evening April 5, at 7:00 p.m. All are cordially invited to these services.

- Sister Verda Lorenz, Cor.

MARRIAGE
MALLOW--LONG

Sister Rachael Darlene Mallow, daughter of Brother and Sister Eldon Mallow of Clearville, Pennsylvania, and Brother Bruce W. Long, son of Brother and Sister Homer K. Long of Manheim, Pennsylvania, were united in marriage on Saturday, May 25, 1974, by Brother Eldon Mallow. They are making their home at Route 3, Box 50, Manheim, Pennsylvania 17545.



To ease another's heartache, is to forget one's own. - Lincoln



It is not what you have that matters, it is what you do with what you have.



Worldliness is simply pursuing the activities of the present life with no thought of God.



Live as if Christ died yesterday, rose this morning and was coming back tomorrow.

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Paul R. Myers
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BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LIII

MARCH 15, 1975

NO. 6

"For the faith once for all delivered to the saints."

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and
Scriptural in practice.

OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all
the world and preach the gospel.

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

JESUS

Think of Jesus - What a Friend!
Said He'd love us to the end.
King of kings, and Lord of lords
And His love is beyond words.

Oh, His life He gave for us
And shed His blood upon the cross
That from our sins we may be freed -
Jesus, Saviour, Friend indeed.

What a cruel death He died!
"Oh forgive them all," He sighed.
The lowly man of Galilee
Then gave His all for you and me.

"In the tomb He'll lay to stay,"
I imagine them to say.
But no matter how they tried
They could not keep the Crucified.

Praise the Father, Praise the Son!
What a gracious work is done!
Now He lives to intercede -
Jesus, Saviour, Friend indeed.

- Brother Jan Heisey
1021 S. Clay St.
Troy, Ohio 45373

THE DAY IN WHICH TO REJOICE

This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it." Psa. 118:24. Truly, we should regard each day given unto us as the day which the Lord hath made. As we arise in the morning refreshed, to begin the duties of the day, we resolve to make this a better day than the day before. But alas! How often, before the day is done, we feel that somehow we have failed! But then God has given us another day in which to improve and in which to rejoice.

Then there are other days, special days, God gives us in which we greatly rejoice and are glad. One such is the day on which we commemorate Christ's birth. We are made to rejoice greatly in God's love for mankind, expressed in the giving of our Lord and Saviour, that we might have life and that we might have life more abundantly. Truly, this was the day which the Lord made.

Another most important day which the Lord has made is the day on which our Saviour voluntarily went to the cross and gave His life for our sins. Indeed, it was a day of sadness as His loved ones and friends watched. Yet out of the darkness of that day has come light and much rejoicing.

We feel that the Resurrection Day best fulfills the true meaning of our text. What a day in which to be glad and rejoice! The day of our Lord's birth means much to every Christian as does the day of His death. But the day of His Resurrection is the happiest time of all. Christ came and gave His life for our sins; yet without the Resurrection we could not expect to obtain eternal life. "If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we

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are of all men most miserable." I Cor. 15:19.

Yes, this is the day God has made. It is a day of hope, "That being justified by His grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life." Titus 3:7. It is a day of freedom, "For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death." Rom. 8:2. It is a day of gladness.

In contrast to this day is the day in which wicked men nailed the Son of God on the cross. It was a day of darkness, a day of sorrow and despair. This too, was the day the Lord had made but it became man's day in which wickedness seemingly gained the ascendancy over righteousness. Judas betrayed Him, His disciples forsook Him, His own people sought His death. How sad it was that His friends and followers turned away and some even stood afar off. Yet we read in the Word that it is possible to crucify the Son of God afresh, when there are those who taste the Good Word of God and then fall away.

Thanks be unto God that in so many ways light follows darkness, that God's day follows man's day. This was true in the Creation. We read that "...darkness was upon the face of the deep. And God said, Let there be light; and there was light." Then there was spiritual darkness before Christ's Advent in which God had but little communication with people. Again as Christ hung upon the cross, the sun was darkened and darkness was over all the earth for three hours. We believe there shall be great spiritual darkness in the world before Jesus, the Light of the world, returns. Thanks be unto God that His day followed our day. This day announces to all the world that death has been defeated, that Satan's power can be broken and that death is not the end.

There are many cynics and sinners who have had many troubles and sorrows in life. How they need to know the true meaning of this day! They need to know that "As by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous." They need to know the grace of God, that "Where sin abounded, grace did much more abound." Rom. 5:19,20.

We see much about us that is heart-rending. Perhaps we are inclined to think that evil rules the day. But the Resurrection declares that righteousness, decency, and kindness are stronger than sin, human corruption, and violence. This day is our defense against all that is past as well as all that the future holds. "This is the day which the Lord has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it."

GOD HAS NOT LEFT HIMSELF WITHOUT A WITNESS

In all the dispensations of the past God had faithful witnesses, though the witnessing class was always in the minority. The antediluvians had

their Abel, and Noah, men who amid all the skepticism that surrounded them were God's faithful witnesses.

The postdeluvians had their Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Moses, Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephtha, David, Samuel, and the prophets. These were all true witnesses for God during the dark ages through which they passed.

Of the host that came out of Egypt, two remained loyal and faithful, while thousands fell by the wayside on their journey to Canaan. Joshua, one of them, was promoted to leadership on the death of Moses, their former leader. This honor was conferred on Joshua because he "wholly followed God and kept His commandments," being a loyal and faithful witness for God.

While Israel and Judah were constantly drifting into sin and away from God, a few were loyal and faithful witnesses, and even in the exile and captivity, God had His Ezekiel and Daniel, Nehemiah and Jeremiah as faithful witnesses, and so on down to faithful Malachi, the last of the Old Testament witnesses. Although few in number, God always had faithful men who witnessed for Him.

In the opening of the dispensation, John the Baptist stands out prominently as a witness, until Jesus Christ Himself bore witness of and for the Father. And when He left the world, He had gathered unto Him a faithful and loyal band, who amid the superstition and speculations of a stiff-necked, self-righteous people, bore faithful testimony for God and "the Christ, the Son of God," sealing their testimony with their own blood.

And so on down through the dark ages to the Reformation He had a Tertullian, a Monulus, a Cyprian and others to witness for Him until finally, our own Brother Mack comes upon the scene, following Luther, Calvin, Zwingli, and others who bore honorable testimony for Him as a faithful witness for God and the Christ.

From that time on down to more recent times He has had Christopher Sauer, Peter Nead, James Quinter, R. H. Miller, D. Hays, and others of the fathers, who were loyal and faithful witnesses. And even now amid all our drifting and worldward tendencies of the church, God has His witnesses, though in the minority, who refuse to take part in or sanction the innovations and worldliness that have crept into the church, but who deeply deplore the departures from the faith of the Father.

And so on down to the end of time, God will have a remnant, not likely a large one, that will be true and faithful and loyal and that will bear witness for Him, a remnant "Who dare forsake what they deem wrong; Who dare to walk in wisdom's way; Who dare to give where gifts belong; Who dare God's precepts to obey."

"SEE THAT YE BE NOT TROUBLED"

Truly we are living in troubled times. People are fearful of the future. They are fearful of their government or the economic situation and no longer feel serene in the expectation of living in a land of plenty. They no longer feel safe with the crime rate increasing, the drug abuse, the decline of religious sincerity. Also many places in our land have experienced calamities such as famines, tornadoes, and earthquakes. Many people suffer with diseases which involve many painful hours. The list is numerous.

How is the Christian to face these distressing times? We turn to the Word of God and find this message. "And ye shall hear of wars and rumors of wars, see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. All these are the beginning of sorrows. Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake. But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved." Matt. 24:6,8,9,13.

People who have set their affections on worldly possessions and pleasures, can well be troubled. There is no future for them, but the Christian whose affections are settled on heaven and heavenly things need not fear. A Christian's hope is sure and steadfast, firmly anchored on the rock, Christ Jesus.

The Apostle Paul says in II Cor. 4:8,9, "We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed, we are perplexed, but not in despair; Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed."

As we realize that perilous times are coming upon the earth, we are to look up, "For our redemption draweth nigh." Luke 21:28. Jesus commanded us in Matt 24:6, "See that ye be not troubled." This is a direct command that we might overlook. We are not to be overly concerned with the cares of this life. "And take heed to yourselves, lest at anytime your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares." Luke 21:34. We are to be alert and watchful. "Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man." Luke 21:36.

There is only one source of peace in these troubled times. "Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." John 14:1,27. "These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." John 16:33.

It is too wonderful for us to comprehend that the Son of God came to this lowly earth and sacrificed His life on the cross that mankind might obtain this peace. That we, too, might be overcomers!

May we seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness. May we labor to bring forth fruit for His vineyard. Our affections need to be firmly fixed on Higher Things. Then we will be so unspeakably happy as to hear those welcome words, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant enter thou into the joy of thy Lord." There we will experience true peace and contentment forever in the presence of our Saviour. "In thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand are there pleasures for evermore." Psalms 16:11.

- Sister Maxine Surbey
West Milton, Ohio 45383

ANSWERED PRAYERS

Part 10

In the previous articles of this series, I have given Biblical examples of answered prayers. We know that God answers prayers.

It seems to me that with world conditions as serious as they are, people are not engaging in prayer as they ought. The condition of our nation is becoming progressively worse.

Food is in short supply and very expensive. Millions are unemployed. The water and the soil are contaminated. Morals were never on a lower level.

Adultery, fornication, and free love are the order of the day. Hundreds of men and women are living together without the benefit of a marriage certificate.

Churches are failing in the purpose for which they were established. Instead of houses of dedicated worship to Almighty God, they are fast becoming places of amusement, banqueting, and social programs.

Government leaders have proved to be untrustworthy. They have become politicians instead of statesmen.

We as a nation are financially bankrupt, deeply in debt. Our dollar is hardly worth half that. Fewer people are controlling this nation's wealth to the hardship of the masses.

I am not a pessimist. I have extracted the above statement from newspaper headlines.

If all professed Christians would unite their efforts to live their profession, and would pray to Almighty God for the right thing in the right way, many of the above troubles and problems would be righted by our loving Creator.

Such enumerated conditions as given above, as recorded in God's Word, were existing in another age. God gave them the remedy, and I

believe the same remedy would apply today. It is recorded in II Chron.-7:14, "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."

This is the only solution to our national and international problems. Man cannot solve them. Money will not. War will not. Treaties will not. Endless numbers of high echelon government men will not solve our nation's problems. Only God can.

I have faith in God and have proof that He hears and answers prayers. I think a world wide day or days of prayer would accomplish more than any group of men can ever hope to accomplish.

A man and his wife were riding in a taxi-cab in New York City. They noticed the picture and name of the driver on a card in the taxi. They assumed the name was Dutch. Upon inquiry, the driver said he was born in Holland, but came to America as a young man. The conversation led to his enlarging on how he liked America and the many opportunities offered in America over his homeland, Holland.

The conversation led to the subject of the love of God. "Yes, sir," he said, "I love God." Then he related an experience which proved his faith and love of God and substantiates my contention in this series of articles that God answers prayers.

He related the following: During World War I, he was a young boy living with his parents in Rotterdam, Holland. He related how Holland had been conquered during that war. The enemy had laid it to waste.

They destroyed factories, farms, manufacturing plants, and many, many homes and buildings. Goods, food and crops that they could not consume or carry away were destroyed. The enemy had left their country in desolation.

Food was very scarce and many people were going hungry. They had for their only food beets left in the field and tulip bulbs.

He related that night after night he and his parents and thousands more went to bed, crying in pain and hunger. Their stomachs shrunk and in his words "dried up." He watched his father and mother and they watched him become thinner and paler day by day. But each day the famine waxed worse and worse for more and more people.

One day word was passed around by a minister that on the morrow at a certain place, he was calling for a prayer service. At the appointed time, over two thousand had congregated.

He stated that their resources were gone. Hunger and disease was causing much sickness and death and because there was no food available, they would pray to God for help. He requested that many pray. He referred to the love of God and how they had no other help available, whatsoever. He led off in prayer. Hundreds over the audience were

praying at the same time, asking God to provide food for the people. Their prayers were earnest, out of desperation.

He said as he and his parents left for home, they knew that God heard their prayers. They just knew He did. As they prepared for bed that night his mother said to him so assuringly, "Do not worry, son, God heard those prayers."

Forty-eight hours later the sky was nearly darkened by a great armada of airplanes. The people became affrighted. They thought there was going to be more bombing. Then they saw dark objects floating down from the sky which they assumed were bombs. But they were not. They were food packages from abroad. Thousands of them. Each package was God's answer to that prayer meeting two days before.

They prayed and God provided. Just as promised in II Chron. 7:14. Again, I believe if America would get down on her knees and beg forgiveness and acknowledge our needs, God would hear, heal, and answer. I firmly have that faith in God.

- Brother Paul R. Myers
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A SAD PICTURE

In Psalm 137, we have a description of the children of Israel while in captivity in Babylon. Some would tell us that it was near the close of their captivity, but nevertheless they were still in Babylon.

They were in this condition because of their forgetfulness or in the New Testament it is referred to as unbelief. Forgetfulness would imply the loss of remembrance; both of these things are mentioned in this chapter. They had been warned that such could happen unto them. In Deut. 6:12, "Then beware lest thou forget the Lord, which brought thee forth out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage."

Not only this, but just before this captivity took place, they had been warned time and again by the prophets. They were told what would happen to them if they would not change their ways and return unto the Lord, but they did not heed the warning. Above all, they persecuted the prophets that dared to stand for the Lord. Also there were false prophets that would encourage them in the way in which they were doing, following the heathen nations in their idolatry, and numerous other things which were contrary to the law of God.

These people were not blind to what God had done for them. They had been informed from generation to generation of the great deliver-

ance from the land of Egypt, of the crossing of the Red Sea, of the journey to the promised land, of all the great wonders God had performed for them in bringing them to their desired haven. Not only that, but how God had been with them in their new home, protecting them from their enemies, and providing them with plenty of food, and clothing. But they were not satisfied and as the old saying is -- the grass looks greener on the other side of the fence, which according to the Word is spiritual adultery.

Yes, they had some very good kings that held to God's law, and they had some that were just opposite. Eventually, God gave them over to captivity because they would not repent, and turn to their only true God. Thus we find them in the situation in which they were in Psalm 137.

In verses seven, eight, and nine of this chapter we have a description given of some of the persecution which they possibly went through with. The Bible tells us that when Jerusalem was besieged the situation was terrible, of which we do not doubt.

Isn't it sad things like this are sometimes needful to bring remembrance, which they acknowledged in the first verse, "Yea, we wept when we remembered Zion." Some would think after their days toil was done as slaves they would gather at the river among the willows, but anyway they had company. Could we possibly think to mock them or laugh at them under these circumstances? Verse 4, "How shall we sing the Lord's song in a strange land?" A person is reminded of the time that Sampson, during captivity, was brought forth to make sport. When they remembered all these things they couldn't sing; they hung their harps on the willows. Verse 5, "If I forget thee, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget her cunning." The hand which was used to play these instruments was skilled in that work or had the ability that comes from experience. They acknowledged that the remembrance of Jerusalem was much more needful than to play the harp.

Verse 6, "If I do not remember thee, let my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth; if I prefer not Jerusalem above my chief joy." Could one think of such a desire? Even the thought of singing was gone; they prayed but their prayer was too late. I believe they had actually come to the place in life that they realized what actually was the source of their real joy.

We do know that after a certain length of time their captivity came to an end. It would be unthinkable to believe that all that went into the captivity returned, undoubtedly many of the older ones died in Babylon.

Friends, do we not know that all of these things that happened to Israel should be lessons to us during this Gospel time? We have warning after warning to abstain from the lusts of the flesh that war against the soul. Jesus says in Luke 6:46, "And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?"

Many today are preaching about the love of Jesus, and others are

trying to picture our Lord as being so merciful that He will never cast anyone into hell. The Lord Himself has given us a picture of the rich man that fared sumptuously every day, but that he died. There we have a different picture, but he had a memory.

Now, the children of Israel were able to again return home, but I find no return for a person that comes to death in an unsaved relationship with the Lord. The two ways of life have been given us by the Lord, and I am made to wonder if the Lord is not weeping over us as He did the children of Israel. Luke 19:41,42, "And when he was come near, he beheld the city, and wept over it, Saying, If thou hadst known, even thou, at least in this thy day, the things which belong unto thy peace! but now they are hid from thine eyes." There is no peace in captivity, nor is there any peace in hell.

John the Baptist whose mission was "to prepare a people for the coming of the Lord," also says, "O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come?" Luke 3:7b.

I believe the children of Israel were kept from persecution as long as they followed close to the Lord, but I believe that we have somewhat of a different picture today under the New Testament age. "Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution." II Tim. 3:12. We are given the comfort of the Scripture that gives us reason to consider that the soul never dies, therefore our hope is beyond the grave.

May we have wisdom to endure. "But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord." I Cor. 15:57,58.

- Brother Melvin C. Roesch
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The Righteous Judgment of God - Rom. 2:5. A man wrote the editor of a paper stating that he had planted his crop on Sunday, cultivated on Sunday, and finally harvested it on that day. "And this, October," he concluded, "I harvested a finer crop than any of my neighbors." The editor published the letter and below this brief comment - "God does not always settle His accounts in October." God's delay is one of the mysteries of His government which many misinterpret.



"As sure as God puts His children in the furnace, that sure He will be in the furnace with them." - Spurgeon.

CHILDREN'S PAGE

JOSEPH MAKES HIMSELF KNOWN TO HIS BRETHREN

Gen. 45:1-8

Joseph's brethren were at Joseph's Egyptian home. It was likely the most luxurious home in Egypt next to the king. It must have been an impressive experience for them. Joseph had just told them that Benjamin must stay and be his servant because he had been found with Joseph's cup in his sack. Judah pleaded with Joseph to let him take Benjamin's place because Benjamin was the father's favorite and youngest son. The shock of losing another son would cause him to die. As Judah plead with Joseph we can see Joseph's brothers prostrated before him, shaking their heads and moaning to themselves, "Why did we ever sell our brother, Joseph? Surely, God has sent this evil upon us because of this foul deed." The brothers had never told their father what actually happened to Joseph. They let him think that Joseph had been killed by a wild animal. Of course they didn't really know what happened to Joseph after they had sold him to the Ishmeelites as a slave. So now their guilt came before them in a tremendous way.

At last Joseph could stand it no longer and said to his servants, "Every one of you must leave. I must be alone with these men." The servants were surely puzzled over such a statement because they were continually before Joseph ready to do anything he commanded them. But Joseph's word was law and they all went out. Then Joseph revealed himself to his brethren. At first he wept aloud. He cried so hard that Pharaoh's servants and the Egyptians that were near the place heard. Finally, Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph, your brother; does my father yet live?" It had been twenty-two years since Joseph had seen his father. How would you like to have been in Joseph's place? He was only seventeen when he was sold into Egypt and he loved his father dearly. He probably thought many times that by now his father was dead.

Joseph's brothers were dumbfounded. What in the world would this man do next? Did he know everything? And Joseph, realizing that this was almost too much for them, spoke tenderly to them and said, "Come near to me." And his brethren came near. Joseph said to them again, "I am Joseph, your brother, whom you sold in Egypt. Now, don't be grieved and angry with yourselves that you did this thing: for it was of God. He sent me here before all this famine to preserve life. So it wasn't

you that sent me, but God, and He has made me the lord of Pharaoh's house and a ruler over the land of Egypt."

God did work in a wonderful way to bring Joseph, a faithful man to be a deliverer for his people in a time of famine. God can work wonders in your life too if you will only be true to Him. God loves you and wants to help you. Give your life to Him and He will abundantly bless you and will make you a blessing to others.

- Brother Rudy Cover

LET MY PEOPLE GO

Exodus 8:25-28; 10:7-11,24-26

Pharaoh said, "Go, ye, sacrifice to your God in the land." Moses said, "We can't sacrifice in the presence of the Egyptians." Pharaoh said, "I will let you go, only don't go very far away." Moses had said, "We will go three day's journey into the wilderness." After many plagues, Pharaoh said, "Go now ye that are men and serve the Lord." Moses said, "We will go with our sons and daughters." Pharaoh said, "Go, only let your flocks and herds be stayed." Moses said, "There shall not an hoof be left behind; we know not with what we must serve the Lord."

God had said to Pharaoh through Moses, "Let my people go, that they may serve me in the wilderness." Exodus 7:16. He will not accept a compromise, which Moses knew and tried to tell Pharaoh. Yet Pharaoh tried to get God's people to do so, using every excuse he could think of. He soon forgot the plagues inflicted upon the Egyptians when he refused to let the people go, until the plague of death came. Then, he let them go.

Pharaoh wanted them to worship in Egypt where there was sin. God's people cannot do this; the farther we get from sin, the better able we are to worship and serve God. If we stay close to where sin is, it will be easy for Satan to lure us back into it.

God wants the whole family to worship Him. Pharaoh only wanted to let the men go, knowing they would return to those left behind. If only one or two in a family serve God, the other members tend to draw the faithful ones away from Him. When all join together in service, there is strength and unity.

Moses said they would not leave any possessions behind, as they did not know what they would need to serve God. They expressed their faith by going prepared to give whatever God asked, even though He hadn't yet told them all that He would require. We should be pre-

pared to give whatever He asks, as all that we have came from Him and should be used to honor Him.

We may not be asked to serve God in the wilderness, but He does want us to serve Him. We cannot compromise, but must get away from sin, where He can use us. We have a family responsibility -- if part of our family doesn't serve God, He wants us to help them find the way of Truth and Life.

God called His people out of sin (Egypt) so they could serve Him. He is still calling today -- "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Matt. 11:28. He set His people free from bondage and He wants to set you free from the bondage of sin. Won't you come out of sin now and receive His rest for your soul?

- Sister Eileen Broadwater

THE RESURRECTION

In commemoration of the bodily resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ from the tomb, let us consider I Cor. 15:20, "Now is Christ risen."

It seems to me the first Easter service was held in the garden of the dead, but we have no record of a large crowd. This was a glorious morning, the air filled with the scent of spring flowers. Birds were singing praises to God, filling the air with sweet melodies after a long night of silence. The dawn was breaking forth in all its glory through the great horizon. It certainly was quite different than other mornings.

We know Mary and other women had taken spices to anoint Jesus but He was not there. No, He was not there for He had risen from the dead. There was an angel at the head and one at the foot of the tomb. The first words of the angel's message were "Fear not," a message of cheer.

This was the greatest message ever heard by human ears; without this message the birth and death of Christ would have been forgotten long ago. We who know the resurrected Christ need have no fear of anything in life, death, or eternity. The New Testament could not have been written, and the Church, we as His children hold so dear, would never have come into existence if it had not been for the Resurrection.

Jesus first appeared to Mary Magdalene out of whom He had cast seven devils but some believed not that she had seen Him. We find in the angel's message a commission, "Go quickly, and tell His disciples that he is risen from the dead." There must have been great joy in their hearts to know that Christ was alive. I can imagine what a wonderful day this was when He appeared to the eleven; how wonderful the disciples must have felt to think and know their precious Lord was again alive.

Over nineteen hundred years have passed since the first Easter Morning. I wonder how many of the thousands of people down through the years as they gather to celebrate this wonderful event realize what it means to have a risen Lord? My heart aches for them who do not know the Lord, who haven't heard the angel's message of love, hope, and good cheer. It is up to us dear ones to carry this message of light to the lost ones. Are each of us doing our best to spread the gospel to the dear ones in darkness, or are we leaving someone else do the work. Let us each think on this and try to do our part. It is a great privilege as God's children to proclaim this message of salvation.

Many have fallen asleep in Jesus, your loved ones and mine. The Lord's resurrection is proof of our resurrection. As surely as He came out of the grave that glorious morning in the garden so shall Jesus come forth in the dawning of the Resurrection Day. The saints of God, those dead in Christ, will be resurrected; those living saints on earth will be translated, and all join each other in the air with Christ. This will be the greatest scene ever witnessed. That indeed will be a glorious day, "Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works." Titus 2:13,14.

- Sister E. M. Alltus
Modesto, California

NEWS ITEMS

NOTICE

All queries for General Conference, along with reports from the secretaries of the various boards, should be in my hands no later than April 15, 1975.

- Paul Blocher, Writing Clerk
R. 1, Union, Ohio 45322



WINTER HAVEN, CALIFORNIA

Recently we have been well blessed as some of our members came down over the week-end. We also had some from Modesto, Glen Ellen, and Torreon Mission, almost fifty in all. We had a wonderful time. Pray that we may hold out faithful.

- Sister Dora R. Spurgeon, Cor.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR APRIL

April 6— Transformed by the Renewing of the Mind. Rom. 12:1-21

April 13— Obedience to Civil Law-Conduct Toward Others. Rom.
13:1-14

April 20— Follow After Peace and Things Which Edify. Rom. 14:1-23

April 27— Brotherly Unity. Rom. 15:1-14.

QUESTIONS:

- (1) How can we become a living sacrifice to God? Rom. 12:1,2
- (2) Why should we be law abiding? Rom. 13:1,2
- (3) How can we fulfill the law of God? Rom. 13:8,9
- (4) Why is it wrong to judge one another? Rom. 14:10-13
- (5) What do we have to overcome to be united in brotherly love? Rom.
15:3



A Thought: The Lord uses those who are little in their own eyes; for the smaller we are, the more room God has to work!



Live Answer -- "Doctor, how long must I remain in bed?" asked a patient rather anxiously. The kind doctor replied quietly, "Just one day at a time, sir, just one day at a time."

God has assured us "As your day, so shall your strength be."



Your availability counts more with God than your ability.

DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR APRIL 1975

COME

Memory Verse, I Chron. 16:29

Give unto the Lord the glory
due unto his name: bring an
offering, and come before him:
worship the Lord in the beauty
of holiness.

Tues. 1 - II Kings 16:1-20

Wed. 2 - II Kings 18:1-37

Thurs 3 - II Kings 19:1-19

Fri. 4 - II Kings 19:20-37

Sat. 5 - II Kings 20:1-21

Memory Verse, I Chron. 29:12

Both riches and honour come
of thee, and thou reignest over
all; and in thine hand is power
and might; and in thine hand it
is to make great, and to give
strength unto all.

Sun. 6 - I Chron. 14:8-17

Mon. 7 - I Chron. 16:1-22

Tues. 8 - I Chron. 16:23-43

Wed. 9 - I Chron. 17:1-27

Thurs. 10 - I Chron. 29:1-30

Fri. 11 - II Chron. 1:1-17

Sat. 12 - II Chron. 6:1-21

Memory Verse, II Chron. 23:6

But let none come into the
house of the Lord, save the
priests, and they that minister
of the Levites: they shall go in,
for they are holy: but all the
people shall keep the watch
of the Lord.

Sun. 13 - II Chron. 6:22-42

Mon. 14 - II Chron. 9:1-12

Tues. 15 - II Chron. 10:1-19

Wed. 16 - II Chron. 13:1-22

Thurs. 17 - II Chron. 19:1-11

Fri. 18 - II Chron. 20:1-30

Sat. 19 - II Chron. 23:1-21

Memory Verse, II Chron. 29:31

Then Hezekiah answered and
said, Now ye have consecra-
ted yourselves unto the Lord,
come near and bring sacrifices
and thank-offerings into the
house of the Lord. And the
congregation brought in sacri-
fices and thank-offerings; and
as many as were of a free heart
burnt-offerings.

Sun. 20 - II Chron. 25:1-25

Mon. 21 - II Chron. 29:1-19

Tues. 22 - II Chron. 29:20-36

Wed. 23 - II Chron. 30:1-27

Thurs. 24 - II Chron. 32:1-26

Fri. 25 - II Chron. 35:1-25

Sat. 26 - Ezra 3:1-13

Memory Verse, II Chron. 30:1

And Hezekiah sent to all Israel
and Judah, and wrote letters
also to Ephraim and Manasseh,
that they should come to the
house of the Lord at Jerusalem
to keep the passover unto the
Lord God of Israel.

Sun. 27 - Ezra 4:1-24

Mon. 28 - Ezra 6:1-22

Tues. 29 - Ezra 9:1-15

Wed. 30 - Ezra 10:1-17

Memory Verse, II Chron. 30:5

So they established a decree
to make proclamation through-
out all Israel, from Beer-sheba
even to Dan, that they should
come to keep the passover un-
to the Lord God of Israel at
Jerusalem: for they had not
done it of a long time in such
sort as it was written.

Paul R. Myers
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BIBLE MONITOR

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"For the faith once for all delivered to the saints."

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

THE UNEXPECTED

I know not what may come today,
Some needy soul may cross my way;
Lord, give me words of cheer I pray,
To meet the unexpected.
Perhaps some loss may come to me,
Some care, or some perplexity.
Then He my strength and stay shall be
To face the unexpected.
How oft within the trivial round
So many trying things are found;
But He can make all grace abound
For all the unexpected.
No matter what the call may be,
Or changes that may come to me;
His hand of love in all I see
From sources unexpected.
Why should I ever have one fear,
Though oft the way be dark and drear?
For Christ my risen Lord draws near
With blessings unexpected.

- E. Buckley, England

THE CHOICES OF LIFE

"According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon. For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; Every man's work of what sort it is. If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire. I Cor. 3:10-15.

Each of us make choices every day of our lives. Many of the choices we make have no great importance. One could skip a day of school or a day of work without being the worse for it. In creating man in His image, God gave the right of choice. Man is no automaton. A grave responsibility exists with this right choice.

Lot is an example of how one can make an unwise choice. Genesis 13 tells of the vast riches of cattle, and silver, and gold, which Abraham had. Lot also had flocks, and herds, and tents. It finally came to the point the land wouldn't support them so they separated. Abraham, gracious man that he was, gave Lot a choice. He chose the well-watered plains of the Jordan valley over higher ground.

As we all know, most things in this life have certain advantages and disadvantages. The disadvantage of Lot's choice was the wickedness of Sodom. It was a good choice from the standpoint of personal advantage but a very poor choice from the standpoint of his family. How did it affect them? Soon after that we read that "Lot pitched his tent toward Sodom."

THE BIBLE MONITOR

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Still later we read that Lot sat in the gate of Sodom indicating, perhaps, that he was an official of the city. The result was "men" laid hold on Lot's hand and the hand of his daughters and the hand of his wife, but his wife looked back and she became a pillar of salt. I am sure it was Abraham's pleadings to God on behalf of Lot that saved him. Gen. 19:29.

Centuries later, Paul speaks of Demas, his companion in labor. II Tim. 4:10. He chose between sharing Paul's disgrace, the abuse, the hardships, and the amusements and glitter of Thessalonica. Many choices are made at the point of personal pleasure. Why take up the cross of self-discipline when the world offers so many attractive things? Many choices are made between more money and spiritual value. The difficulty may be compounded if one needs things for the family.

How often does this present world dictate our choices? It seems the natural, the "smart" thing to do. Then we wonder how many choices are made for "status." Choices are as numerous as individuals. Our choices are important because it involves our relationship with God.

What should be our attitude regarding our choices in life? I believe our basic attitude should be one of obedience to His will. Christians can make mistakes. But let us take heed how we build on the foundation which has already been laid according to the text. Each day we are choosing what we build - gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble. The far-reaching effect of our choices may never be known this side of eternity. How do we know God's will? Through prayer, through the Word, by His Spirit, through circumstances pointing the way.

"Thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left."

May each of us make the proper choices as we go through life that it may be for our good and for the honor and glory of God.

ANSWERED PRAYERS

Jesus was a praying individual. He was the Son of God. In many respects He was equal with God. He said, "I and my Father are one."

Though He was the Son of God, He felt His dependence on a Higher Power. As Christ experienced the problems of humanity He received power from God.

Many Scriptures record prayers uttered by our Lord. In the raising of Lazarus from the dead, God heard and answered Christ's prayer.

According to the scriptural account in St. John 11, Mary and Martha, who lived in Bethany, were very close to Jesus. They had a brother named Lazarus. Jesus loved Lazarus, Mary, and Martha; He was close to these three people. From all accounts, He abode in their home on

numerous occasions. It was this Mary that anointed the Lord's feet with ointment and wiped His feet with her hair.

Lazarus became ill; Mary and Martha sent for Jesus. He received the word, but purposely waited until Lazarus passed away before going to this home. After two days, Jesus said to His disciples, "Our friend Lazarus sleepeth, but I go to awake him." The disciples thought Jesus meant that Lazarus was in a natural sleep, but Jesus referred to death as a sleep.

When Jesus arrived near Bethany, He learned that Lazarus had been buried four days before. Bethany was near Jerusalem and Jesus was aware that many Jewish friends came to comfort Mary and Martha.

Martha went to meet Christ. She expressed her faith in Him, that had He been there, Lazarus would not have died. She told Jesus that she knew that whatever He asked of God, God would grant it. Jesus gave her consolation, telling her that her brother would rise again. Martha thought Christ meant that Lazarus would rise on the Resurrection Day.

Martha returned home and told Mary that Jesus was on the way. Mary went quickly to meet Jesus. She found Him at the same place Martha had left Him, on the outskirts of Bethany. She was in tears as were the Jews which were accompanying her. Jesus was touched. The Word says in John 11:35, "Jesus Wept." Serious conversation passed between the people which witnessed this event. Some were made to say, "Behold how Jesus loved Lazarus."

Jesus, groaning, came to the grave which was a cave with a stone for a cover. Jesus said, "Remove the stone," it was removed, then Jesus prayed to God in the presence of the people, that they might believe that God sent Christ into the world. He prayed with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come forth." Many people witnessed this prayer to God. The same people witnessed God's answer to Jesus' prayer. Verse 44 states, "And he that was dead came forth." We definitely do have a prayer answering God.

- Brother Paul R. Myers
Box 117, Greentown, Ohio 44630



I used to think that God's gifts were on shelves one above the other; and that the taller we grew in Christian character the easier we could reach them. I now find that God's gifts are on shelves one beneath the other; and that it is not a question of growing taller but of stooping lower; and that we have to do down, always down, to get His best gifts.

DISCIPLINE

After much weeping, prayer, and fasting God put into the heart of His servant Nehemiah to go and rebuild the walls of Jerusalem. This may have been no easy task for Nehemiah; but he felt that God was with him, and that no power on earth could hinder the work. So the work continued until it was completed.

Nehemiah doesn't forget the promise he made to Artaxerxes, the King, that he would return to him. But during his absence from Jerusalem sin entered into it. Undoubtedly this grieved him at his heart to think they would disobey God's law; nevertheless he doesn't compromise nor cooperate with them in their sins.

The words of Nehemiah are as follows: "And it grieved me sore: therefore I cast forth all the household stuff of Tobiah out of the chamber. Then I commanded, and they cleansed the chambers: and thither brought I again the vessels of the house of God, with the meat-offering and the frankincense." Neh. 13:8, 9.

The man of God, Nehemiah, seemed to recognize the grave danger in compromising or cooperating with them in their sin, and he chooses to please God rather than man by using discipline. The Scripture we have quoted and the remainder of the same chapter surely ought to open human understanding to the extent that to allow sin which is evident to remain in the church without using discipline not only is dangerous to one who commits the sin, but to all they who know about it. To more firmly verify this statement, we ask the reader to go to Joshua 7.

The children of Israel fled before the men of Ai because they had sin in the camp. When Achan saw among the spoils a goodly Babylonish garment, and two hundred sheckels of silver, and a wedge of gold, etc., he took them. This kindled the anger of the Lord against the children of Israel and the Lord said unto Joshua, "Neither will I be with you any more, except ye destroy the accursed from among you."

"Up, sanctify the people, and say, Sanctify yourselves against tomorrow; for thus saith the Lord God of Israel. There is an accursed thing in the midst of thee, O Israel: thou canst not stand before thine enemies, until ye take away the accursed thing from among you."

Does not the Lord demand the use of discipline, and make it so binding by telling Joshua except ye destroy the accursed from among you I (meaning the Lord) will not be with you anymore? Joshua doesn't hesitate to use discipline so the commandments of God may be carried out. Achan and all that he had, even his sons and daughters, perished in the valley of Achor.

We may wonder why Achan's sons and daughters perished with him. The reason may be that of concealing sin for him. Therefore we ought to

use much precaution not to be partakers of other people's sins, neither bid them Godspeed.

When Jesus went up to Jerusalem "and found in the temple those that sold oxen and sheep and doves, and the changers of moneysitting," He does not cooperate nor compromise with them in this work; but He used discipline in the strongest terms possible.

"And when he had made a scourge of small cords, he drove them all out of the temple, and the sheep, and the oxen; and poured out the changers' money, and overthrew the tables; And said unto them that sold doves, Take these things hence; make not my Father's house an house of merchandise."

Mr. Webster defines discipline as follows: Correction, regulation, training or to improve by corrective methods; chastise, etc.

When a child becomes disobedient and will not hear to the admonishing of its parents, then we are compelled to use the rod. It is not used because we hate the child, but because we love it. More than this God has enjoined this duty upon us. Prov. 13:24 says, "He that spareth his rod hateth his son: but he that loveth him chasteneth him betimes."

We quote again from Prov. 29:15, "The rod and reproof give wisdom: but a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame."

The same applies to the church when discipline is not used (it matters not who it is, layman or an official, rich or poor) to correct the violation of God's law. It doesn't only bring disgrace and reproach upon the transgressor, but the church also. We firmly believe God has enjoined upon the church the use of discipline, and there is only two things to do, obey or disobey.

God deliver us from the latter.

- Brother Paul Reed from March 1, 1942 Bible Monitor
Selected by Sister Bertha Dorsey

THE CHRISTIAN'S DELIGHT

Did you ever awaken in the night and feel a special desire to talk to God. Wasn't it a wonderful consolation to be assured of His care while you prayed? There may be a question in your mind or an unsolved problem, and as you think it over, suddenly the answer is there! When we are quiet inside, away from the hustle and bustle of life, God can speak to us in a special way. This is truly a delight to every Christian's heart.

During the day, even when faced with the confusion of everyday living, we can have peace inside because God is present with us. We can delight in meditating (thinking) about His Word and His will for us. "In the

multitude of my thoughts within me thy comforts delight my soul." Psalm 94:19. There is no substitute for the peace and comfort we have when we think about God.

A story is told of a minister who approached a man in a small southern town and asked if anyone there enjoyed religion. The man replied after a moment, "Yep, them that has it does!" True, joyous religion is having Christ in our hearts. When we delight in Him, we experience a joy we cannot explain or contain. It will overflow to those about us, and they will know we are happy in Him.

As a Christian, we will delight in doing whatever God asks. Our thoughts and our activities will be centered in Him. We will ask Him to direct us moment by moment so we do not miss an opportunity to give a helping hand or a word of encouragement. "I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, thy law is within my heart." Psalm 40:8.

Psalm 119:11 gives us a special reason for having His law within: "Thy word have I hid in my heart, that I might not sin against thee." When we truly delight to do His will, we do not want to sin. It is His Word that keeps us from it, and to be effective, it must be in our hearts. Do you have His law (word) within, or have you filled yourself with useless material? Can it be said about you that "His delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night." Psalm 1:2.

A Christian has many delights, all of which center in Christ and His will. Serving Him is truly a joyous experience, if we love Him with our whole heart, soul, and mind. A halfhearted service does not please Him and there will not be any delight in it for you. Is He your delight, or have you allowed routine activities to spoil your relationship with Him? God wants to bless us with His joy, love, peace, even the desires of our hearts, if we delight in Him. Love Him wholeheartedly, and His blessings will be yours! "Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart." Psalm 37:4.

- Sister Eileen Broadwater
Pioneer, Ohio 43554

THE CHURCH AND IT'S ESTABLISHMENT

The kingdom or church of God originated in the mind of God. Dan. 2:44. Its establishment was a gradual work. Matt. 13:31, 32. It was first manifested in the world under the ministry of John the Baptist. Luke 1:77. It was formally built and organized by Christ and under His personal ministry was gradually developed into a working body of believers. Luke 6:12, 13.

Jesus built and organized the kingdom by: A. Ordaining preachers,

Mark 3:13-15. B. Assigning them territory, Matt. 10:5-7. C. Giving them a commission, Matt. 10:5-7. D. Giving them work, Matt. 10:7, Mark 3:14. E. Giving them power, Matt. 10:8, Luke 10:19. F. Creating the first office (apostolic) of the church. I Cor. 12:28. Therefore, Christ while here on earth organized: Company of disciples assembled, preachers ordained, given a commission, assigned territory and work, and given power and authority to do the work. More of the essential and leading facts of an organization are found nowhere else in the Bible. This coupled with the fact that Jesus was to build the temple of the Lord settles the matter as to the origin, building, and organizing of the kingdom or church of God.

Jesus himself preached the gospel of the kingdom and sent the apostles to preach it. He preached this gospel in His natural life. Matt. 4:23, "And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people." He later sent the apostles to preach the gospel. Matt. 10:7, "And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand." Mark 3:14, "And he ordained twelve, that they should be with him, and that he might send them forth to preach." Luke 10:1, "And after these things the Lord appointed other seventy also." They preached an existing kingdom was at hand. Matt. 4:17, "From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom is at hand." At hand means it is here now. Matt. 26:46, "Rise, let us be going: behold he is at hand that doth betray me."

Note, neither Christ nor the apostles told the people the kingdom was in the future. Note, your letter is at hand. He that betrayeth me is at hand—actual existence. People were going into the kingdom in Jesus' lifetime. Matt. 21:31, "Jesus saith unto them, Verily I say unto you, That the publicans and harlots go into the kingdom of God before you." Matt. 23:13, "But woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye shut up the kingdom of heaven against men: for ye neither go in yourselves, neither suffer ye them that are entering to go in." Luke 16:16, "The law and the prophets were until John: since that time the kingdom of God is preached, and every man presseth into it." Man couldn't go into something that wasn't in existence.

These conclusions can be drawn from the preceding scriptures. 1. Jesus organized the kingdom or church, and established it in His lifetime. 2. Jesus preached the gospel of the kingdom in His lifetime. 3. Persons were entering into the kingdom in Christ's time. 4. Christ appointed the kingdom to His apostles in His lifetime. 5. Jesus was born king, therefore there must have been a kingdom for Him to rule. 6. He organized the church in His lifetime. These facts show conclusively that the church existed during Christ's lifetime, and was not built on the day of Pentecost.

- Brother W. E. Bashor

867 Lorna Drive, Glen Ellen, CA 95442

WORSHIP

What do we mean by worship? The act of paying divine honor to God.

Worship is an effort of the individual to realize the real presence of a Divine Being. Therefore, worship means a complete submission of ourselves, our minds, bodies, and wills to a power greater than our finite comprehension. It means a forgetfulness of self, a casting off of everything that binds us to material things. It means an inward searching and an outward humbling of self.

This is a great subject. Let us turn to I Chron. 16:29. "Give unto the Lord the glory due unto his name: bring an offering, and come before him: worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness."

The first thought here is give—a command. Give unto the Lord. What? The glory due unto His name. Second, bring an offering. In one definition of the word worship, we must first offer ourselves, then come before His presence.

Worship who? The Lord. How? In the beauty of holiness. God said, "Be ye holy, for I am holy." I Pet. 1:16. There is beauty in holy living; this is pleasing to our Creator. We are to come to His holy temple in true humility. "O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the Lord our maker." Psalms 95:6.

We are to have a true love for God's house. "Lord, I have loved the habitation of thy house, and the place where thine honour dwelleth." Psalms 26:8. "I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord." Psalms 122:1.

How grateful we are for our heritage. Our parents gave attendance to going to worship service. Never did I hear my parents ask the question, "Are we going to church today?" It was a God given privilege and a duty we all recognized by example.

It is a place of instruction. Read Micah 4:2.

We are commanded to praise God in song. Eph. 5:19-20, "Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your hearts to the Lord; Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."

There is a four-fold reason for praise: "But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light."

There is unity in worship. "Again I say unto you. That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven. For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." Matt. 18:19-20. We have the example of the apostles in Acts 2:46-47.

The home is also the place to show piety. We have Cornelius as an example. Acts 10.

Jesus said, "God is a spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth." John 4:24.

How do we present ourselves before the Lord? Truly it means an inward searching and an outward humbling of self. Humility is the exact opposite of pride. It's right that we be neat and tidy in our manner of modest dress, for God has given us the principle of simplicity "...the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price." 1 Pet. 3:4.

What do I experience in God's house? Peace of heart and quietness of soul.

When we begin conforming our life to the life of Jesus Christ, we are led to a realization of God's presence. Praise His holy name!

- Sister Sylvia E. Parker
5290 W. St. Rte 718, Troy, Ohio 45373

THE PLAIN BONNET

(Preface — A lady in Los Angeles, whose training in schools and business circles enables her to prepare an interesting and beautiful typewritten article, wishes to tell the story of her observations anonymously. It is rare to grant this privilege, but we are sure that what she has to say will be read with interest, even if she is unknown to our readers. B. E. Kesler, Editor)

The bonnet has caused me to meditate upon its use, its worth, its testimony, its protection to the wearer, until I feel a deep desire to voice my convictions concerning it. It seems very far from right to speak of it as a cross. Being an outsider, I have an opportunity to know how it is looked upon by the world in general, and of the respect and love it creates in those who see it.

I also find there are many who love the doctrines and the lives of those who wear the bonnet and are not willing themselves to sacrifice the foolish fashions of looking like the rest of the world. Ah well, until they are willing they are not ready to don this sacred little witness of a meek and humble spirit. I have even heard that some Dunkards were a little disturbed because of their rule of wearing it. They wear the bonnet simply to comply with the laws of the church in order to be members, not because they love it as the silent little messenger to the world, saying so plainly, "In the world, but not of it." They love its sweet reminder of their crucifixion or that having been made partakers of His death and of His nature. "Dead indeed unto sin but alive unto God." They must be holy,

pure, clean of heart and life, all that the plain bonnet stands for to those who see it.

To me, it is very sacred, very beautiful and I often say, "How careful and prayerful its wearer should be not to disgrace it and thus bring reproach upon her profession." Having attended the church for a long time, I have been greatly impressed by the beauty of the faces framed by the bonnet and like others, I often ask why the bonnet made the wearer so pure and lovely. Ah, I have learned, it is the humble spirit of her, as she thus chooses to lay aside the useless, worldly fashions and in modest apparel make known to all that she belongs to a separate and peculiar people.

Humble, meek, dead to the world, pride, fear of man, peaceful, calm, loving, beloved, obedient to the command to come out and be separate. Is it a wonderful result that both face and bonnet become glorified, almost saintly in some cases? Others look like a psalm of praise; again there are faces that seem like a prayer. I have looked through tear-dimmed eyes upon such faces which seemed to stir my inmost soul with wonder and awe. Very rarely have I seen a face inside of a bonnet that wore either frown or anxiety. I will never forget how it impressed me, grieved me, because of its contradiction to other faces. The bonnet is a protection, a constant reminder of what the wearer professes, a rebuke to a wrong act, yes, even thought.

Some may say, "If the writer believes so in the bonnet, why does she not wear one herself?" The sweet sermons I have read in some faces have caused me to long to go and do likewise, and that is what I intend to do someday. Sisters, you who wear the bonnet, be grateful for the privilege for it is sweet protection and manifests the spirit of humility. Love it as a sacred witness of your faith in the Lord Jesus. Sisters outside the church, who would like to join but see no use in this change of dress, never look upon it as a cross but as a protection, a sweet shelter which will hide you away from the world, relieve you of all the worry and work of conforming to each year's fashion and the difficulty of finding a neat, modest head'covering. From a common sense view, the bonnet is neat, economical, and modest. Even the world admits it. Moreover, it is becoming to a willing wearer, who is happy in it.

I send out this message, praying God will bless it to some heart to whom the bonnet is a cross or who is kept out of church fellowship because of the bonnet. I know the Holy Spirit will carry it home to some dear one and that perhaps to many their bonnets will become dearer because of their sacred witness.

Some months have passed since writing the above. I wish now to add a few words from the standpoint of a Dunkard. I thought I knew all there was to know about the bonnet, but since now I have my own bon-

net, I have realized a blessing, a separation beyond my previous conception. There is a sense of rest and satisfaction, a relief from the demands of the world's fashions. I love it and never for a moment have I felt the least discomfort or regret. No one has been unkind to me, but on the contrary, I find it brings confidence, love, respect, and reverence from all, even unbelievers.

I deem it a sacred privilege thus to bear witness and it constantly reminds me of what manner of person I should be, who professes to be a follower of the meek and lowly Jesus. The prayer covering I find a blessed help, in my studio of music, where a true teacher feels the need of much silent prayer for wisdom, tact, and patience. With love and greetings to all my dear sisters in the faith, I would add in closing. Never, never be sorry you are obliged to wear the bonnet. I find it is always becoming to a willing wearer. God put something else in that face that is beautiful, that far surpasses all worldly adornment and leaves all such far beneath their desires. True beauty lies within and consists of a "meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price."

- From March, 1923 Bible Monitor
Selected by Sister Maxine Surbey

NEWS ITEMS NOTICE

The 1975 Dunkard Brethren Conference will be held at Mission Springs Conference Grounds near Santa Cruz, California, June 7 - 11. From Santa Cruz go 3½ miles north on Route 17 to Mt. Hermon Rd. (turn right at Big Basin sign and cross freeway, Route 17.) Go 1½ miles on Mt. Hermon Rd. Turn right on Lockhart Gulch Rd. and go 1 mile to Mission Springs Conference Grounds.

From Los Gatos go South 15½ miles on Route 17 to Mt. Hermon Rd. Turn right and proceed as above.

For those coming by bus (Greyhound or Peerless) get off at Camp Evers and Phone 335-4280 for transportation to Conference Grounds.

If you come by plane or train be sure to make your own arrangements with members or friends for pick-up when you arrive.

For reservations send your name and the number of persons you expect to bring with you and length of time you intend to stay. Write to Brother Rudy Cover, 2307 Oakdale Rd., Sp. 34, Modesto, California - 95355.

All blankets, linens, towels, washcloths, and soap will be furnished.

Brother Rudy Cover

GRANDVIEW, MISSOURI

The Lord willing, the Grandview Congregation will hold their spring Lovefeast services April 26 and 27. Services will start at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, with the Lovefeast service at 7:30 p.m. There will be all day meeting on Sunday. Come and worship with us.

- Sister Bertha Jarboe, Cor.

**THANK YOU**

May God bless each one that sent cards, gifts, and for each visit and every prayer during the illness of Andrew Smootz, due to an accident that leaves him blind. He received 246 birthday cards on his birthday February 12. His spirits are wonderful. He is not afraid to thank God for his condition. God still performs miracles.

- Brother Russell and
The Andrew Smootz Families

OBITUARY

ROBERT T. R. BITTINGER

Son of James Burd and Laura C. Bittinger was born on May 13, 1903, in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, and departed this life on October 25, 1974.

He was united in marriage to Myrtle Marks. To this union were born four daughters and five sons.

Brother Bittinger had been a member of the Church of the Brethren for a number of years and in 1964 he became a member of the Waynesboro Dunkard Brethren Church. Brother Bittinger served as a deacon since 1965. Later Brother and Sister Bittinger transferred their membership to the Mechanicsburg Church where he served faithfully until death.

He is survived by his wife, Myrtle; daughters, Mrs. Dorothy Commerer, Mrs. Mary Bigler of Shippensburg, Mrs. Grace Frost, Louisiana, Mrs. Ruth Westburn, Maryland; sons, Aaron Bittinger, Maryland, Paul and John Bittinger of Shippensburg, James Bittinger, Carlisle, and David Bittinger of St. Thomas; seven sisters, Mrs. Dorothy Heckman, Chambersburg, Mrs. Mary Hawkins of Newville, Mrs. Catherine Tate, Idaville,

Mrs. Helen Carbaugh, Fairfield, Mrs. Grace Termin, Millville, New Jersey, Mrs. Mabel Toner, Mt. Holly Springs, Miss Gladys Bittinger of Shippenburg; one brother, James Bittinger of Chambersburg; twenty-eight grandchildren; sixteen great-grandchildren; and a number of nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held at the Barbour Funeral Home in Shippenburg by Brother John Pepper and William Jones. Final resting place was in the Bible Brethren Cemetery.

Loving Memories

Your gentle face and patient smile
 With sadness we recall,
 You had a kindly word for each
 And died beloved by all.

The voice is mute and stilled the heart
 That loved us well and true,
 Ah, bitter was the trail to part
 From one so good as you.

You are not forgotten loved one
 Nor will you ever be,
 As long as life and memory last
 We will remember thee.

We miss you now, our hearts are sore,
 As time goes by we miss you more,
 Your loving smile, your gentle face,
 No one can fill your vacant place.



SENTENCE SERMONS

I cannot always understand the blessed Master's rule;

I cannot always do the tasks He gives in life's hard school;

But I am learning with His help to solve them, one by one,

And, when I cannot understand, to say, "Thy will be done!"

CHILDREN'S PAGE

JOSEPH SENDS FOR HIS FATHER

Gen. 45:9-28

Joseph had revealed himself to his brethren and forgiven them for selling him into Egypt. What a relief it must have been to know that this great man of Egypt was not only their brother but their friend. He wanted to help them. Joseph loved them, but most of all he wanted to see his father. So he said unto his brothers, "Don't stay here, but go to my father and tell him that God has made his son, Joseph, to be ruler over Egypt. Tell him to come down to Egypt at once and I will give him the land of Goshen to live in and bring all his children and their children, and your flocks and herds and everything you have. In Egypt I will take care of you because there will be five more years of famine and if you stay where you are you will lose all that you have."

"And Joseph fell upon his brother Benjamin's neck and Benjamin wept. And Joseph kissed all his brothers and wept and after this his brethren talked with him." What a wonderful time that must have been! Because Joseph was such a popular man with the Egyptians, they approved of anything that Joseph did. When they learned that these men were Joseph's brothers it was really something to talk about. And the fame thereof was heard in Pharaoh's house, saying, "Joseph's brethren have come," and it pleased Pharaoh well, and all his servants. Pharaoh told Joseph to send his brethren home and bring their father and he would give them the best of the land of Egypt. So they took wagons and provisions according to Pharaoh's command. Joseph gave each brother a complete change of clothes but to Benjamin he gave five changes of clothes and three hundred pieces of silver. He sent his father ten donkeys loaded with the good things of Egypt and ten donkeys loaded with corn and bread and meat for his father's return journey.

The brethren returned to their father and told him that Joseph was alive and that he was governor over all the land of Egypt. This was too much for Jacob and he just wouldn't believe them. But when they told him all that Joseph had said and when he saw the wagons which Joseph had sent to bring him to Egypt, he changed his mind and said, "It is enough; Joseph, my son, is yet alive: I will go and see him before I die."

Jacob, who was now named "Israel," had suffered much but God remembered him and blessed him in his old age. God has plans for you and I too. Remember that, "God doeth all things well."

- Brother Rudy Cover

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BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LIII

APRIL 15, 1975

NO. 8

"For the faith once for all delivered to the saints."

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

PERFECT PEACE

I look not back: God knows the fruitless efforts,
The wasted hours, the sinning, the regrets;
I leave them all with Him, who blots the record,
And graciously forgives and then forgets.

I look not forward: God sees all the future,
The road that, short or long, will lead me home,
And He will face with me its every trial,
And bear with me the burdens that may come.

I look not around me: Then would fears assail me,
So wild the tumult of earth's restless seas;
So dark the world, so filled with woe and evil,
So vain the hope of comfort and of ease.

I look not inward: That would make me wretched,
For I have naught on which to stay my trust;
Nothing I see save failure and shortcomings
And weak endeavors, crumbling into dust.

But I look up: Up into the face of Jesus,
For there my heart can rest, my fears are stilled,
And there is joy, and love, and light for darkness,
And perfect peace, and every hope fulfilled.

- Author
Unknown

THE VALUE OF CHRISTIANITY

It should be the desire of each of us to get the most we possibly can out of life. It is only natural for us in our more thoughtful moments to question the purpose of our presence on this earth. Why did God create man? Why are we here? In our younger years, it seems that time goes slowly. Then as we grow a few years older, we realize that time seems to be slipping by at an accelerating rate. This being so, it is to our advantage to make the best use of time that we may get the most out of life.

The most important thing we may consider in getting the most out of life is the place of religion in our life. Man is a triune being having body, soul, and spirit. There is that within him that cries out for one to worship and adore. When man doesn't know God, he creates a god to worship. This being true, it would appear that the most important thing we can do is to establish a relationship with God early in life. It is most important that young people be taught of God and His Word early in life. Statistics prove that only a very small percent of people accept Christ after the teen years. "Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them." Ecc. 12:1.

A belief in God will help us to have peace of mind concerning both this life and the life hereafter. Life has many facets. It has its ups and downs, its joys and sorrows, its successes and failures. A belief in God will have a tempering influence upon our lives, keeping us from going from the heights of elation to the depths of despair. The Apostle Paul wrote, "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose." Rom.

THE BIBLE MONITOR

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8:28. Sometimes things may come upon us that we feel are almost disastrous at the time, but in which we later see they were for our good.

There is much evil in the world and we must ever be on our guard that we not become enmeshed in it. A belief in God will help us have those desirable qualities whereby we can withstand the evil. Paul in writing to the Phillippians wrote, "Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things." Phil. 4:8. If we think on these things we will be more upright, more honorable, in other words, better Christians. We may have self-respect and the respect of those about us.

Finally, a belief in God causes one to be desirous of helping others. The Psalmist says, "O taste and see that the Lord is good. . ." Ps. 34:8. If we enjoy our belief in God, we will not be selfish but we will have a desire that others also taste. A belief in God will cause us to be willing to sacrifice. Christ was the greatest example of sacrifice this world has known for ". . .The Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many." Mark 10:45. Furthermore, He said "Whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant." Matt. 20:27.

The Christian life is a life of service unto others. We find our greatest happiness in making others happy. This world in which we live is a selfish world, but let us do what we can to bring more happiness into it. "For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead: And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again." II Cor. 5:14, 15.



ALCOHOL - WHISKEY - THE GREAT REMOVER. . . It has been said that alcohol will remove stains from summer clothes. True! It will remove clothes, too. In fact, alcohol will remove the shoes from the feet, the furniture from the home, the groceries from the kitchen, the money from the pocket, the smiles from the faces of the family and friends, the laughter from little children, the automobile from the garage, all young people from school and college. It will remove happiness, honor, and self-respect. It will destroy forever, your hope of an eternal home in Heaven. Yes, alcohol is a **GREAT REMOVER!**

JESUS

Jesus knew that His hour was come that He should depart out of this world unto the father. Truly, it must have been His desire to go back to His Father. But the way back was by the way of the cross, for on the cross he must hang until death. Jesus knew this was soon to take place.

Judas had left the supper, for Satan had entered into him, and now he was on his way to complete his work of the betrayal. Therefore, Jesus said unto His disciples, calling them little children, "Yet a little while I am with you. Ye shall seek me; and as I said unto the Jews, Whither I go, ye cannot come. . ." John 13:33. No, they couldn't go with him then, but they would be following later.

Knowing this He gives them comforting words, "Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also." John 14:1-3.

Jesus instructed them to keep the commandments that He had given them, also to bear fruit. They were to love one another, for He said, "This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you. Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you." John 15:12-14.

"But now I go my way to him that sent me; and none of you asketh me, Whither goest thou? But because I have said these things unto you, sorrow hath filled your heart. Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away; for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you." John 16:5-7.

"Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come. These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation; but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." John 16:13, 33.

He tells His disciples to be of good cheer; I have overcome the world. Yet He lifted up His eyes to heaven, and begins to pray for those He was about to leave. "I pray for them; I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine. And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are. I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the

world. I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil. Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us; that the world may believe that thou hast sent me." John 17:9, 11, 14, 15, 20, 21.

Do we, as part of the great number of people who dwell in this world, still believe that Jesus was sent of the Father? Do we believe that Jesus was sent to save us from our sins, and to keep us separate from the world, being in the world, but not of the world? Yes, more than this, we are the light of the world. Jesus said, "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

We need to thank our heavenly Father for the evening that Jesus spent with His disciples, for it has been a blessing to us many times. But now we find them leaving that upper room. And when they had sung an hymn, they went out unto the mount of Olives. Jesus went forth with His disciples over the brook Cedron, where there was a garden. Remember, Jesus was traveling to the cross.

Mark, in his writings says, "And they came to a place which was named Gethsemane; and he saith to his disciples, Sit ye here, while I shall pray. And he taketh with him Peter and James and John, and began to be sore amazed, and to be very heavy; And saith unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful unto death; tarry ye here, and watch. And he went forward a little, and fell on the ground, and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. And he said, Abba, Father, all things are possible unto thee; take away this cup from me; nevertheless not what I will, but what thou wilt." Mark 14:32-36.

Earlier in the evening, Jesus gave the disciples a cup it was a cup of blessing. Now, Jesus has a cup, a cup of suffering - terrible suffering. Therefore, He was praying, but what about the disciples? "And he cometh, and findeth them sleeping, and saith unto Peter, Simon, sleepest thou? couldst not thou watch one hour? Watch ye and pray, lest ye enter into temptation. The spirit truly is ready, but the flesh is weak." Mark 14:37-38.

Luke gives us this, "And there appeared an angel unto him from heaven, strengthening him. And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly; and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground. And when he rose up from prayer, and was come to his disciples, he found them sleeping for sorrow, And said unto them, Why sleep ye? Rise and pray, lest ye enter into temptation. And while he yet spake, behold a multitude, and he that was called Judas, one of the twelve, went before them, and drew near unto Jesus to kiss him." Luke 22:23-47.

Now, Jesus was in the hands of cruel sinful men. He was tried before the rulers. Pilate, the governor, gave the people their choice between Barabbas or Jesus to be set free. But they cried Barabbas - now Barabbas was a murderer. "Pilate said unto them, What shall I do then with Jesus which is called the Christ? They all say unto him, "Let him be crucified."

"Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the common hall, and gathered unto him the whole band of soldiers. And they stripped him, and put on him a scarlet robe. And when they had platted a crown of thorns, they put it upon his head, and a reed in his right hand; and they bowed the knee before him, and mocked him, saying, Hail, King of the Jews! And they spit upon him, and took the reed, and smote him on the head. And after that they had mocked him, they took the robe off from him, and put his own raiment on him, and led him away to crucify him." Matt. 27:27-31.

All of this he suffered for you and I as He continued on to the cross. "And he bearing his cross went forth into a place called the place of a skull, which is called in the Hebrew Golgotha." John 19:17.

- Brother H. Edward Johnson

ANSWERED PRAYERS

Part 12

In II Kings, chapter 20, there is a very interesting lesson on answered prayers.

Hezekiah was king of Judah; he reigned twenty-nine years. He inherited a disorganized realm. He began his reign with a great reformation. He destroyed the idols Ahaz had set up. He reopened, cleansed, and restored the temple for the worshipping of God.

He trusted in God and God was with him and prospered him. He recaptured cities lost to the Philistines. Isaiah, the prophet, was Hezekiah's trusted adviser throughout his reign.

In the fifteenth year of his reign, his trusted adviser, the prophet Isaiah, delivered a message to Hezekiah which was given of the Lord. The message was, "Set thine house in order; for thou shalt die, and not live."

This was a fateful message to hear coming from God. It caused him to do what we generally do when we are confronted with some dreadful experience. He prayed and wept bitter tears.

While Hezekiah was praying Isaiah went out into the middle court. He

had been obedient to God; he had delivered God's message. I presume it was hard for Isaiah to deliver such a message. Perhaps, even in the middle court, Isaiah could hear Hezekiah praying. For certain God heard.

God does hear our prayers. He is moved by our tears. He is touched by our emotions. He does care. He shares our sorrows. He weeps with those who weep.

God heard Hezekiah. He spoke to Isaiah to turn back and tell Hezekiah that He heard his prayers and saw his tears.

God's answer to Hezekiah's prayer was in my words that you will not presently die, but I will extend your life fifteen years. Hezekiah wanted proof that the Lord would heal him of his boil and would extend his life fifteen years. Isaiah suggested that Hezekiah ask that the shadow go forward ten degrees or back ten degrees. Hezekiah said it was easy for the shadow to go down ten degrees. For conclusive proof let the shadow return backwards ten degrees.

Isaiah prayed unto the Lord about it. The Lord reaffirmed His first answer by causing the shadow to return ten degrees.

Yes, God does answer prayers.

- Brother Paul R. Myers
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THE GREATEST THING THERE IS

I Corinthians 13

What is the greatest thing there is? It's love! Love will last forever, even though other things pass away. Peter said, "Above all things, have a fervent love." This is not a shallow love. Love is the fulfilling of the law. "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets." Matt. 22:37, 39, 40.

When you have love, you will not mistreat another. You wouldn't think of stealing from someone you love. You wouldn't want to cause any harm or pain, physical or mental, to one you love. You will want to do what God wants you to do for them. No matter what spiritual gifts you have or how much faith you have they mean nothing without love. The helpful deeds you do are worthless if they are motivated by selfishness, or any other thing but love.

Bartimaeus was given his sight and also God's love, because the Bible says he followed Jesus in the way. You can't follow Jesus in the way without God's love in your heart.

There are nine ingredients of love given in verses 4 through 6. The first is patience, this is perseverance or endurance without murmuring. The second one is kindness, a kind person will give even if he must suffer. The third is generosity, which is giving, but it is also being glad when others can do things that you cannot.

Next comes humility, God likes an humble person, but hates a proud look. Number five is courtesy, one won't behave unseemly, but will do what God is pleased with. "Seeketh not her own" means unselfishness; it is human nature to be selfish, but love changes that.

"Is not easily provoked" means good-tempered. The prodigal son's older brother pouted; he was provoked and didn't have the love to accept his brother back. The eighth one is honesty or no guile (thinketh no evil). There was no guile in Christ's mouth. He spoke plainly to the Pharisees, and we should tell others when we know they are wrong. The last one is sincerity, rejoicing in the truth, rather than in evil.

There will be peace and love when we are in Heaven, but Christ brought it here to us as well. It takes a lot of practice to make a specialist and if we want to be a specialist in God's love, we must put these virtues to practice. His love is the motivating force in our Christian living. It is important because it lasts. Other things vanish away, so don't place your hope in them. Faith and hope will be fulfilled when we see God, but love goes on, there's no end.

Why do we want to live? It is because someone loves us. Many people commit suicide because no one loves them. God loves us, and we show our love for Him by giving love to the brethren. "Everyone that loveth is born of God." Also, "We love him, because he first loved us." I John 4:7, 19.

Tigranes, king of Armenia, was taken captive by a conquering Roman army. The king, his wife, and children were brought before the Roman general for the sentence of death. Tigranes threw himself on his knees and pleaded for the lives of his family. His appeal so moved the general that he set the entire family free.

As they journeyed away from the Roman headquarters, Tigranes asked his wife what she thought of the general. She replied, "I never saw him." Tigranes exclaimed, "You never saw him! You were standing in his presence. Where were your eyes?" She said, "They were fixed upon the one who was willing to die for me. I saw no one else." She saw only the one who loved her enough to give his life for her.

Christ not only was willing to give His life for us, but He actually did it! We should have our eyes fastened on Him, who loved us, and gave Himself for us so that we could be pardoned. "And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three, but the greatest of these is charity."

- Adapted from a sermon by Brother Rudy Cover

OUR FOREFATHERS

It has been in my mind for sometime to write about the beginning and organization of the Church in 1708, which has been referred to in history as "The German Baptist Church." For this article I am indebted to Jno. S. Flory, author of the book, "Literary Activity of the Brethren, and Genesis of the Brethren Church." Also, I am indebted to D. L. Miller, and M. G. Brumbaugh. I will give a few entire paragraphs from their writings.

First, by Brumbaugh: "I have long been convinced that there is much yet to be learned and recorded. Biography is history teaching by example. At the heart of a great cause is ever the heart of a great man, to know the cause one must know its central spirit. To the student these are the concrete expressions of great movements. Just as one finds back of all this wide, wonderful, beautiful world the personal God, who made it and directs it, so one finds back of a great religious movement virile leaders whose thoughts and acts are the best explanation of the transforming power of the cause they espoused."

We all know by the history of the Reformation that many people were made happy in its day. But to quite a number there was still something lacking when it was compared to the Scripture. These, I gather were the reasons of those that gathered together with Alexander Mack.

I quote from Flory: "The Reformation had accomplished wonders in eradicating heresies, and elevating the social, moral, and intellectual condition of the people. Yet the established Protestant churches had become intolerant and permitted practices that many of the most advanced thinkers of the time could not reconcile with the Bible teaching. These latter, however, were hopelessly split up among themselves, so that there was no end of beliefs and of interpretations of the inspired Word."

Thus the reason for the beginning of our church. I quote more from Flory; "These were not a group of religious enthusiasts, nor were they led to take this step without prayerful and careful consideration. Every inch of the ground they occupied they had carefully fortified by the testimony of history and of the Inspired Word. In no sense were they extremists, unless it was in the extreme heroism of their action and aim - that of re-establishing the apostolic mode of worship after the lapse of a thousand years."

Again, quoting from Flory; "These eight persons bound themselves together as brethren and sisters unto the covenant of the cross of Jesus Christ as a church of Christian believers. And when they had found in authentic histories that the early Christians, in the first and second centuries, had been planted into the death of the crucified Christ by a three-fold immersion into the watery bath of holy baptism, according to the command of Christ, they then sought industriously in the New

Testament, and found everything in it perfectly harmonizing with this early practice. Thereupon they were possessed of a longing desire to use this means practiced and commanded by Christ Himself, believing that according to His righteous command, it became them to fulfill all righteousness."

History would tell us that this was carried out with great joy. Also, they were filled with the desire to follow the Scripture that told them, "To be fruitful and multiply." This they endeavored to carry out.

Now to quote from D. L. Miller; "They were unwilling to accept the filtered product of the Reformation, preferring to go to the undefiled fountain head of God's Word, and as a result were bitterly and cruelly persecuted and driven from their homes by the reformers."

Today people would question the following of just eight souls. They would call it foolishness. But here is an amazing thing - eight souls were in the Ark, which withstood the greatest rain that ever was, and delivered them safely this side of the flood.

Jesus said in Matt. 18:19, 20, "Again I say unto you, that if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven. For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

One thing we believe is very needful and that is to know our Bible. One has said, "He not only read the Bible through, but he got the Bible through him."

Now we want to give a few accounts of the persecution that came to the early Church. The Church was first established at Schwarzenau, but not all eight lived there at that time. The record I have gives one from Switzerland, but the persecution was so great they went to other places. The governor of the Schwarzenau district in his official report gives, "That at one time, forty families of them, (about 200 persons) had moved out of their country. But as soon as they moved to another place it wasn't long till the same thing occurred."

Thus, in their desire to escape persecution they began to look to America. History tells us the first group came over in 1719, consisting of about twenty families. Peter Becker was their leader. The next group came in 1729, consisting of fifty-nine families (126 souls in all) enduring a stormy voyage that lasted seventy-one days. Later in 1733, Elder Naas came over with a small group of members. This Elder Naas was hung up by cords that were tied around his left thumb and his right large toe to get him to change his mind, but he had vowed in his heart to follow the only Prince of Peace.

Someone has written this about Alexander Mack: "His writings show that he was well acquainted with the Scriptures, and very anxious to adhere to the form of doctrine contained therein. And while we venerate

his character, may we honor the system of faith and practice, which he and his coadjutors have handed down to us."

Their coming to America gave them more freedom, yet we find troubles and persecution existed, but still they kept on. During the war of 1776, many of them endured great persecution and hardships. Because of these things many forsook the way, even as it was back in the New Testament time. Jesus says in Matt. 10:22, "And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake; but he that endureth to the end shall be saved." And in Matt. 28:20, "Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you; and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen."

It has been sometime since I have heard the song, "'Tis the old-time religion, and it's good enough for me." One stanza says, "It was good for the prophet Daniel, and it's good enough for me." Another, "It was good for our fathers, and it's good enough for me." I hope we can believe those words, and if we do believe we will surely try to live it as did our forefathers. Thank God for them and the heritage they have passed down to us, because they had the courage to search and follow.

Jude 3, "Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that you should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints."

Friend and fellow traveler to the bar of God, I find no place in the Scripture where we have a double standard, one standard for them, and one for us. I believe we have one God, one Saviour, and one Holy Spirit, and that they agree. The Word is forever settled in Heaven. John 5:39, "Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life; and they are they which testify of me." Was it for them? It is also for us.

The story has been told of one asking another, "Which is the most essential prayer, or searching the Scripture?" The other answered, "Do you see the bird out there? Tell me, which wing could the bird do without the best, the right wing, or the left wing?" We would say neither. So it is with the commandments, we cannot get along spiritually without them all.

In Acts 15:26, "Men that have hazarded their lives for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ." These were the men that were to carry the message of good will to the churches. And I believe with all my heart our forefathers, who have searched and found the great Pearl that was lost, are worthy of our gratitude.

- Brother Melvin C. Roesch
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CHILDREN'S PAGE

JACOB MOVES TO EGYPT

Gen. 46

Did you ever have to move to another home? It is quite an experience. Sometimes we don't like to leave a place where we have lived a long time. I remember when I was a boy my parents moved to another place. It was very exciting for me to think of going to a different home. Everything was new to me and I could hardly wait to get going.

The famine had hit Jacob hard and when he heard that Joseph was alive in Egypt he was ready to move. Jacob was a man who trusted in God; so first he went to the town of Beersheba to sacrifice to God. Here was where God talked to Abraham and also to Isaac. In the night God spoke to Jacob and told him not to be afraid to go to Egypt because God would be with him and make a great nation of him there. And he would see Joseph.

Jacob left Beersheba in the wagons that Pharaoh had given Joseph to send to his father. All their possessions were taken along - even their herds. Jacob took all his family with him, his sons and their wives and all their children. There were sixty-six in all and with Joseph, his wife and their two sons made seventy of the family of Jacob that lived in Egypt.

When they arrived in Egypt, Jacob sent Judah to Joseph to tell him they needed to be directed to the land of Goshen. Egypt was a large country. It was over two hundred miles from Beersheba to the land of Goshen and it was about fifty miles from Beersheba to Bethel which was close to where Jacob had lived. This was a long way to travel when they only had animals to pull their wagons. It was slow going and quite an adventure for the children. When Joseph heard their father had arrived, he called for his chariot and went to meet Jacob. What a meeting it was! Joseph fell on his father's neck and wept. Jacob said to Joseph, "Now let me die, since I have seen thy face, because thou art yet alive."

I would think this was one of the happiest times in Jacob's life. Jacob had suffered much but God had not deserted him because Jacob trusted God. If we put our faith in God, He will bless us too. Jesus says, "I will never leave thee nor forsake thee."

- Brother Rudy Cover



The prayer that ascends highest comes from the lowest depths of a humbled heart.

NEWS ITEMS

NOTICE

Through an oversight, the name of Brother Ronald Wyatt was omitted in the February 1, 1975 Bible Monitor list of Deacons.

His address is: 5118 Swanson Road, Denair, California 95316. Phone 209-632-6103.



MARRIAGE

JAMISON - ARMSTRONG

Sister Dyann Jamison, daughter of Brother and Sister Newton Jamison of Quinter, Kansas, and Brother Clair Armstrong, son of Brother and Sister William Armstrong, Sr. were united in marriage on Saturday, March 15, 1975, by Elder Dale Jamison at the Quinter Dunkard Brethren Church. They will be at home on R. 1, Morenci, Michigan.



PLEASANT RIDGE, OHIO

The Lord willing, the Pleasant Ridge Congregation plans to hold services on April 19 and 20. Services will begin at 10:30 Saturday morning, services in the afternoon, and Lovefeast in the evening. Also services on Sunday. Come enjoy these services with us.

- Sister Ruth Kleinhenn, Cor.



LITITZ, PENNSYLVANIA

The Northern Lancaster County Congregation plan to have their Lovefeast at Lititz on Sunday, May 18. Sunday School at 9:30, with all day services. A hearty invitation is extended to all who can to attend.

- Sister Susanna B. Johns, Cor.

OBITUARY

ALICE MAY HALL

Daughter of Henry and Christena Koontz Nease was born near Bradford, Ohio on October 3, 1888. She departed this life on February 27, 1975, at the age of 86 years, 5 months, and 3 days.

She was united in marriage to Samuel S. Hall on February 5, 1907. They celebrated their golden wedding in 1957. Two years later Samuel died. She missed him greatly, for he was so good to her and mother.

She united with the Church of the Brethren in Potsdam, June 30, 1918, later transferring her membership with the Dunkard Brethren in Englewood, Ohio.

She leaves one sister, Mrs. Alva Hall of Brethren's Home, Greenville, Ohio; and eighteen nieces and nephews with their children, who will always remember Aunt Alice.

The sun was brightly shining,
The day God called her home.
When her darkness turned to sunshine
For our sister, sad and lone.

Many years of life she wandered,
Sick in body and in mind.
With her friends and loved ones helping,
Sharing with her all the time.

No more pain and disappointments,
No more loneliness and tears,
For God will wipe them all away
And calm our doubts and fears.

She loved to have folks in her home,
And eat at her welcome table.
This gave her much enjoyment,
As long as she was able.

She visited the sick and sad
And shared her loving gifts, so kind,
For helping others gave her joy
And comfort so sublime.

Our mother shared their home for years
They cared for her when she was ill,
And everything they could, was done
To give her comfort and God's will.

But all the others now have gone
And left her to be here alone,
In a strange place, and helpless, too,
With a longing for Heaven and home.

But God tells us in the Bible
These afflictions that we bear
Will be as nothing, in comparison
With the Glory over there.

So sweet be your rest dear Sister,
We leave you in God's tender care,
Until we go on to Heaven
And all be together up there.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR MAY

May 4— Paul's Ministry to the Gentiles - He Goes to Jerusalem. Rom.
15:15-33

May 11— Mother's Day. I Sam. 1:1-28

May 18— The Power of God to Establish the Church. Rom. 16:1-27

May 25— "The Preaching of the Cross." I Cor. 1:1-31

QUESTIONS:

- (1) Why did Paul go back to Jerusalem? Rom. 15:25-28
- (2) Did Paul have any enemies in Jerusalem? Rom. 15:30, 31
- (3) Who was the miracle child that God gave to Hannah? I Sam. 1:20
- (4) What was the mystery which was kept secret since the world began until Paul's time? Rom. 16:25-27
- (5) Why was the preaching of the cross a stumbling block to the Jews?
I Cor. 1:23

DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR MAY, 1975

COME

Memory Verse, Job 14:14

If a man die, shall he live again?
all the days of my appointed
time will I wait, till my change
come.

Thurs. 1 - Neh. 2:1-20

Fri. 2 - Neh. 4:1-23

Sat 3 - Neh. 6:1-19

Memory Verse, Job 16:22

When a few years are come,
then I shall go the way whence
I shall not return.

Sun. 4 - Neh. 8:1-18

Mon. 5 - Esth. 4:1-17

Tues. 6 - Esth. 5:1-14

Wed. 7 - Esth. 6:1-14

Thurs. 8 - Esth. 8:1-17

Fri. 9 - Esth. 9:20-32

Sat. 10 - Job 2:1-13

Memory Verse, Job 23:10

But he knoweth the way that I
take; when he hath tried me, I
will come forth as gold.

Sun. 11 - Job. 3:1-26

Mon. 12 - Job. 4:1-27

Tues. 13 - Job 5:1-27

Wed. 14 - Job 7:1-21

Thurs. 15 - Job 8:1-22

Fri. 16 - Job 9:1-35

Sat. 17 - Job 13:1-28

Memory Verse, Psa. 5:7

But as for me, I will come into
thy house in the multitude of
thy mercy; and in thy fear will I

worship toward thy holy tem-
ple.

Sun. 18 - Job 14:1-22

Mon. 19 - Job 16:1-22

Tues. 20 - Job 22:1-30

Wed. 21 - Job 23:1-17

Thurs. 22 - Job 38:1-41

Fri. 23 - Psa. 5:1-12

Sat. 24 - Psa. 7:1-17

Memory Verse, Psa. 14:7

Oh that the salvation of Israel
were come out of Zion! when
the Lord bringeth back the
captivity of his people, Jacob
shall rejoice, and Israel shall be
glad.

Sun. 25 - Psa. 14:1-7

Mon. 26 - Psa. 17:1-15

Tues. 27 - Psa. 19:1-14

Wed. 28 - Psa. 24:1-10

Thurs. 29 - Psa. 34:1-22

Fri. 30 - Psa. 34:1-22

Sat. 31 - Psa. 40:1-17

Memory Verse, Psa. 24:7

Lift up your heads, O ye gates;
and be ye lift up, ye everlasting
doors, and the King of Glory
shall come in.

Psa. 30:5

For his anger endureth but a
moment; in his favour is life:
weeping may endure for a
night, but joy cometh in the
morning.



Leave tomorrow's trouble to tomorrow's strength; tomorrow's work
to tomorrow's time; tomorrow's trial to tomorrow's grace and tomorrow's
God.

Paul R. Myers
Box 117
Greentown, Ohio 44635

BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LIII

MAY 1, 1975

NO. 9

"For the faith once for all delivered to the saints."

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

MOTHER

She is our dearest friend on earth,
She shares our sorrows and our mirth,
We find no words to tell the worth, of Mother.
Who, when our friends all prove untrue,
And we are feeling sad and blue,
Who is it then that comforts you? Dear Mother.
And when confined to our bed,
She gently bathes our aching head,
And for us tears of love doth shed, sweet Mother.
She teaches us from day to day,
To put our trust in God and pray
For Him to guide us on our way, our Mother.
And when at last God calls her home,
And we are left all alone,
Oh, sad and dreary is our home, without Mother
With aching hearts our pain we bear,
We seek for friends both near and far.
But can find none that can compare, with Mother.
But yet her words remain so sweet,
They guide along our weary feet,
We have the hope again to meet, our Mother. - E. S. Proper

HONORING MOTHER

"A wise son maketh a glad father; but a foolish man despiseth his mother," Prov. 15:20. We find two important thoughts in this short admonition from the wise man, Solomon. A wise son maketh a glad father and it can be easily implied a glad mother too.

At its best or allowing the least of cares, motherhood or fatherhood requires years of toil, planning, patience, and endurance. This is especially true of those who devote their time to proper and godly motherhood and fatherhood. To a great extent the most of their life has been lived for the children, and even after they are grown, many cares and trials may still come to mother and father because of their children.

The question comes to us, What is a wise son? "and unto man he said, Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom; and to depart from evil is understanding." Job 28:28. The characteristics of wisdom are to fear, trust, love, and obey the words of our Lord and Saviour. An understanding son will certainly make his parents glad. In this day of sin, a son or daughter who guards, controls, and keeps their ways from evil will bring joy and comfort to their parents.

It is a virtue for a son or daughter to labor and conduct themselves that they may be an honor and asset to their parents, their community, and their church. On the contrary, sad is the lot, in all circumstances of the son who will stoop low enough "to despise his mother." This may be brought to light through the son's attitude toward his mother and by anything he might do to degrade the good name of his mother or whatever evil he might do to lower the reputation of his mother.

"The lines are fallen unto me in pleasant places; yea, I have a goodly

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heritage." Psa. 16:6. A son or daughter who is blessed with a goodly heritage has much to his or her credit as they start out in life. Whether poor, unlearned, or physically handicapped, one's lot is still an easy one if he or she has a goodly heritage. On the contrary, a good name, which one has debased through evil, slander or misdemeanor of any kind is very difficult to elevate to the former level. Life is such that it is many times easier to uphold a good name than to restore one which has been debased.

Dear young reader, whatever honor, help, and service you may be able to bestow upon your mother you still can never repay all she has done for you throughout your many years of care. Your service and respect to your parents will be many times repaid in one way or another during the days that are ahead of you. The reasonable honor you may bestow upon them cannot harm you, but may bring you much joy and comfort.

- Editorial from May 1, 1959 Bible Monitor

MY MOTHER

Today, I can visualize my mother sitting at the large kitchen window, looking out into the chicken yard, where no longer her flocks are feeding. Looking beyond that to the orchard where we gathered peaches, plums, and apples, yes, today in early May the lovely apple blossoms are covered with snow, soon to be melted by the glorious sunshine.

Mother never fretted or worried about the weather. Her greatest concern was the children. Now, I see her sleeping on three chairs in the sick room beside her daughter who was ill, keeping vigil, the assurance of a safe recovery.

Next, she is in the kitchen baking bread, cookies, or pies, teaching her daughters how to cook. Many times I wondered how her hands accomplished so much work.

In the years that horses were used for farming, chores were done before breakfast. On Saturday morning six pies were baked before breakfast. Everyone was hungry by seven o'clock (sun time.)

We ate our own home grown vegetables, fruits, and meat. What a happy family we were. All our Saturday's work was done by noon. We spent the rest of the day getting ready for the worship service on the Lord's Day.

Everyone went to worship service unless they were ill. You know who stayed at home with that one, Mother!

Sewing was next in order. Mother taught us what she understood

about that intricate work of art. Every stitch had to be perfect or we would do it over.

Walking a mile to school required warm clothing. She knitted mittens and stockings for the smaller children. Mother's hands were never idle.

Grandma also shared our home. She had her room. Lovingly, she would ask us to kneel at her feet, and she proceeded to teach us how to pray in German, never to be forgotten.

Grandma loved the small flower beds in the garden, along side of the vegetable beds. Our garden was planted in German style. Many times Sylvia or Goldie took grandma for a walk in the garden, telling her all about the plants. (Her eye sight was dim.)

The day came when grandma needed bed care. Mother taught Sylvia how to feed her. This she loved to do. The sheets were washed nice and white, and special ironed ones were kept in the dresser drawer. When anyone passed away, they were ready for use.

Grandma was conveyed by a horse drawn hearse to the church, then to the cemetery, when it came her day for burial. How sad, though glorious to know she was now at rest with her Lord.

Mother prayed, yes, I know for God up in Heaven heard her prayers. The angels listened in and carried her messages to Him in our behalf.

Mother grew tired and lonely when left all alone, years passed by. . and one day the angels came and removed her soul from us.

May we ever honor and respect our dear Mothers, who sacrificed the best of life for us, her children! Please read Exodus 20:12.

- Sister Sylvia E. Parker
5290 W. State Rt. 718
Troy, Ohio 45373

ANSWERED PRAYERS

Part 13

In prayer to God, openness and honesty are essential. If we have sinned we are expected of God to confess them. Sound, firm devout prayers made in Jesus' name provides us with a very much alive contact with God. Such a contact properly used will make an individual an alert, spiritual being. A church, so engaged in prayer, will receive power from God that will make it a viable organism.

We have a typical example of such a people engaged in earnest prayer for a very explicit and worthy cause recorded in Acts 1:15-26.

Judas, who was one of the twelve, betrayed His Lord and Master. He was the only non-Galilean apostle. After he betrayed the Lord with a kiss, a most hideous crime, the Word states he hanged himself. He fell from the scaffold and burst asunder.

This caused the need that a disciple be chosen to replace him. At the meeting called for this purpose Peter was the spokesman. There were about one hundred and twenty assembled together in Jerusalem.

Peter related the fact that Judas had been one of the chosen. Also, that the money received had been used to buy a burial place for the poor called in their proper tongue, Aceldama, which means the field of blood, as recorded in Acts 1:19. Verse 20 states, "For it is written in the book of Psalms, Let his habitation be desolate, and let no man dwell therein: and his bishoprick let another take."

Peter gave somewhat the qualifications of the one to be chosen. Some had accompanied the disciples all the while the Lord went in and out among them. It appears he recommended such men who had been with them from John's baptism until the resurrection of Christ.

Two men met these qualifications. One was Joseph called Barsabas, who was surnamed Justus. The other was named Matthias. Peter was open and frank with the disciples. He related the cause for an election. He gave the qualifications; he explained the deed Judas had done. The above two names were presented to the disciples to make a choice. It was now up to, we might say, the Church. They wanted to be fair to both nominees. They wanted the church to make no mistake.

Did they rely on their own judgment? No. They prayed to God about it. They asked God, who knew the hearts of these two men, to show to them God's choice. They knew that if God made the choice there would be no mistake made. A part of their prayer was that the one chosen would take up this ministry and apostleship to replace Judas, who by transgression fell.

After prayer they cast lots. The lot fell on Matthias and he was numbered with the eleven apostles. God hears and answers individual prayers. Here, He heard the prayers of the church and answered.

- Brother Paul R. Myers
Box 117, Greentown, Ohio 44630



Sometimes an excess of possessions actually makes us poorer. Only the unseen things are real and eternal. "A man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth." Luke 12:15.

CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH

Jude 3, "Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints." Salvation is the one thing that every true Christian is interested in because it concerns the life beyond this vale of tears. Salvation is entered into and lived here in this life, in order that we may prove "what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God." Rom. 12:2b.

Also in St. John 14:6, "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." A very positive statement given by the One that had the authority to give it. Therefore it is concluded that there be no other way to obtain this salvation and so live that we may enjoy the portals of Heaven in the hereafter.

If we but stop and think of the brevity of life here in this world and the eternity of the hereafter, we would do well to remember the Word, "whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." It certainly should be an every day reminder that we should earnestly contend for that faith.

In a former article, we have mentioned of our forefathers who in their search of the Scriptures became so concerned that they dedicated their lives to the cause of Christ, which is revealed in His Holy Word. The Word which we have today, my dear reader, is the only basis that we can find to contend for, that we may continue to have that great salvation today.

From 1800 until 1900, I read of our brethren who have sacrificed their lives also for this very thing. The lives of Elder John Cline and another brother were taken by shooting during the Civil War because of their convictions to stand for the right. Also Brother R. H. Miller who has given us the book, "The doctrine of the Brethren Defended," are examples to me of their determination to contend for the faith. It was once said to Brother Miller, "Brother Miller, you are such a strict constructionist of the Scripture." He retorted quickly, "I would rather be a strict constructionist than a latitudinarian." If you desire to know what that last word means, look it up in your dictionary.

During this time the Civil War was fought in this America. Many of the brethren had a very trying time, yet they were faithful because of their devotion to the Saviour. I want to give the experience of one brother that had a very trying time. The following is about two incidents in the life of Elder Andrew Hutchison, taken from the book, "The Olive Branch of Peace," prepared by Brethren D. L. Miller and D. Hays.

1. In the latter part of January 1863, I was called upon to go to Peters-town, Monroe County, West Virginia, for the purpose of reporting the

condition of a very sick man to his doctor. On entering the town, I saw a considerable body of soldiers in rank and file on the street. This was nothing new or strange. I dismounted from my horse, and was in the act of entering the doctor's office when the chief officer over these soldiers called out, "Halt." I said, "What is wanted?" He said, "We are about ready to march, and you must fall in line and go too." I said, "General, please allow me to see the doctor first." He answered in a very unpleasant manner that he would grant no such privilege. I then insisted that I should be permitted to report the condition of the sick man. He declined to grant the liberty asked for, and used words that I would not wish to repeat. I then informed him that I was an invalid for life, and therefore not able to perform military duty. He answered, "You don't look like a cripple." I then said to him, "I am a minister of the Gospel, and am exempt from military duty." His only reply was, "A young looking preacher" - with some adjectives to it.

I next informed him that I had such conscientious scruples as would forbid me to take the sword, and shed the blood of my fellowman. But this so exasperated the officer in gray that he said with bitter words, "We will see whether you don't," and calling on three men of Company A, "Come out here," and they came; he said to them, "Load your guns," which being done, he said, "Put that man under range of your guns," and they obeyed. The next order was, "Shoot him down in five minutes if he does not consent to go into service." I said, "You can kill me if you choose to do so, but to go into the service and slay my fellowman, I will not. For the sake of Christ and His cause I here and now give up my life freely."

At this juncture, Mr. Allen Spangler, a citizen of that town, came hurriedly by me and ran up on the porch where the officer was standing, and taking him by the throat gave him a regular earthquake of a shaking up, so much so that the officer could not speak for a time. Mr. Spangler then said to him, "Order those guns down, or I will kill you right here." The guns were ordered down, but in a very feeble tone, for he had but little strength left. So the guns were lowered with bayonets to the ground, still holding the breech to the shoulder. I and the soldiers were very near each other. Three men had been shot down just before this, but not brethren. They were shot for deserting the ranks.

Mr. Spangler then said to the officer, "Go into the store there, and write this man a pass, and send him home like a gentleman, before I mash you into the earth." This was done, and the officer brought it to me. I acknowledged the favor, then went into the doctor's office and reported the case of the sick man. I then came out and mounted my horse with nerves very steady. By the time I had gone one-half mile my whole

system relaxed, and it was with no little effort for the next half-hour that I continued on my journey.

This was the only time that I had the privilege of giving up my life for Christ's sake. And while there was a very pleasant feature about it, yet I am free to say that I do not wish to be called upon to repeat it under similar circumstances. It has been of great benefit to me in later trials, and I consent to give the case here, hoping that it may be of benefit to others who may in anyway be brought into trial.

I never felt more fully and visibly the intervention of the hand of Providence than in this case. And it has been a source of great pleasure to me to meet my friend, Mr. Spangler, though he always said he did no more than his duty, which seemed to be a great pleasure to him. He was a very quiet man, but a very strong man. He was at that time serving in the Southern army as a wagon master.

2. The soldiers pressed a fine young mare of mine into the service, and she was as true to the collar as any animal I ever worked. But when they put her in harness, and hitched her to their artillery wagons she squarely refused to pull; they could not make her stretch a tug. They branded her with being disloyal like her master. So they turned her out, and she came home and was true ever after.

The foregoing article I have read many times. One word I want to emphasize; it was stated he had the "privilege" of giving or offering his life. Too many times, I am made to wonder if we don't count such things a burden. I am extremely happy that when I was a boy, I did have the privilege of hearing Brother Hutchison preach.

When our Lord was here on earth in the flesh, He gave an answer to His own disciples who had desire of Him a certain thing. "Are ye able?" In Luke 22:31-34, we have the account given of one that was quite sure. But had it not been for a wonderful Saviour, who had interceded in prayer for him, which is without doubt the thing which kept Peter from going all the way. In verse 32a, "But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not." I am quite sure that it will be only the interceding of our blessed Lord that will help us to be able to stand. Peter's faith then, and now our faith. Dare we ask the question? Can we put too much stress on contending for the faith? Certainly not.

Now regarding Brother John A. Bowman of Tennessee, who we had reference to in connection with Elder John Cline. The soldiers had come to his home, hunting for horses, and was about to take his favorite saddle horse upon which he possibly had made many mission trips. And while he tenderly placed a hand on the horse's mane, imploring them not to take his horse, for he greatly stood in need of his services, the soldiers shot him dead. Thus ended the life of a useful servant of the Lord by the thoughtless and reckless man in the garb of a soldier.

Are we able? Dear reader, it will only be by our faith in the One who is

able to help in the time of need. "Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." Heb. 11:1. May we earnestly contend for that faith, and be sure that our hope has a sure grip on the Solid Rock, Jesus Christ.

- Brother Melvin Roesch
West Unity, Ohio

EVERYTHING GOING HIS WAY?

In the fall of 1974, a fire claimed the lives of a father and son from a local family. Another child in this family had died early in life from polio. The mother was killed in an auto accident several years ago, while in a drunken stupor. Tragic? Yes, death is tragic - when it comes to those unprepared to die.

The father and mother had always spent many evenings in a bar, and after the mother's death, the children were left to themselves even more. They received no Christian training at home and of the nine children, only two or three of the younger ones ever attended Sunday School. This was an even greater tragedy.

The son, age twenty-six, was too young to be expected to die, yet his life was taken. The other children accepted their father's death, but their brother's death affected them differently. They said, "He was young, and had everything going his way." Without God, they had nothing else to console themselves with, and how empty this was!

Did he have everything going his way? What did he have while living without Christ? What would you have going for you, if you live without Christ, and then die without Him? If you are not a Christian, one who believes in God and has trusted in Christ as your Saviour and Lord, you have nothing going your way!

God has promised much to believers, but He also promised much to unbelievers (those who reject salvation.) To the believer, the promises are joyful and rewarding. To the unbeliever, they are full of sorrow and penalties, but they are promises, not just threats! "Many sorrows shall be to the wicked: but he that trusteth in the Lord, mercy shall compass him about." Psalm 32:10.

If you are living without Christ in your heart, you have nothing to hold on to. The way of the transgressor is hard (Proverbs 15:13) because he must walk it alone. When sorrow comes, you must face it alone. When problems come, you must face them alone. If you turn to drugs, alcohol, or narcotics, they will release you from reality only temporarily. When complete awareness returns, you will still have to face life - alone!

The stress of everyday living leaves an empty feeling which you may try to fill in various ways. Yet the emptiness and loneliness remain, because only God's love can fill you with contentment and peace. Away from God, there is only turmoil and confusion. "But the wicked are like the troubled sea, when it cannot rest, whose waters cast up mire and dirt." Isaiah 57:20.

If you continue away from God, living only to please yourself, your death will be even more lonely than your life. If you die without Christ, you will die - alone! "I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins." John 8:24. Sin separates you from God now, and eternally if you die in your sins.

Accept salvation now, while you are young. Then if death comes unexpectedly, you will be ready. If you live, you will have more time to share the good news of salvation with others. If you are already an adult, come to Him now. The longer you wait, the harder it is to turn your back on sin. It is only God who can cleanse you, and make you fit to live and ready to die. If you truly want everything going your way, "go with God, and He will go with you."

- Sister Eileen Broadwater

THE MASTER IS COMING

They said, "The Master is coming to honor the town today,
And none can tell at whose house or home the Master will choose to stay."

And I thought, while my heart beat wildly, what if He should come to mine?

How should I strive to entertain and honor the guest Divine?

And straight I turned to toiling, to make my home more neat;
I swept, and polished, and garnished, and decked it with blossoms sweet.

I was troubled for fear the Master might come ere my task was done;
So I hastened and worked the faster, and watched the hurrying sun.

But right in the midst of my duties a woman came to my door,
She had come to tell me her sorrows, and my comfort and aid to implore.
And I said, "I cannot listen, nor help you any today,
I have greater things to attend to," and the pleader turned away.

But soon there came another, a cripple, thin, pale, and gray,
And said, "Oh, let me stop and rest awhile in your home, I pray;
I have traveled far since morning, I am hungry and faint and weak;
My heart is full of misery, and comfort and help I seek."

And I said, "I am grieved and sorry, but I cannot help you today,
I look for a great and noble guest," and the cripple went away.
And the day wore onward swiftly, and my task was nearly done,
And a prayer was ever in my heart that the Master to me might come.

And I thought I would spring to meet Him, and serve Him with utmost
care,
When a little child stood by me with a face so sweet and fair,
Sweet, but with marks of teardrops, and his clothes were tattered and
old;
A finger was bruised and bleeding, and his little bare feet were cold.

And I said, "I am sorry for you; you are sorely in need of care.
But I cannot stop to give it, you must hasten on elsewhere."
And at the words a shadow swept over his blue-veined brow,
"Someone will feed and clothe you, dear, but I am too busy now."

At last the day was ended, and my toil was over and done,
My house was swept and garnished, and I watched in the dusk alone.
Watched, but no footfall sounded, no one paused at my gate;
No one entered my cottage door, I could only pray and wait.

I waited till night had deepened, and the Master had not come;
"He has entered some other door," I cried, "and gladdened some other
home."
My labor had been for nothing, and I bowed my head and wept.
My heart was sore with longing, yet spite of all I slept.

Then the Master stood before me, and His face was grave and fair -
"Three times today I came to your door, and craved your pity and care;
Three times you sent Me onward, unhelped and uncomforted,
And the blessing you might have had was lost, and your chance to serve
has fled.

"O Lord! Dear Lord, forgive me, how could I know it was Thee?"
My very soul was shamed and bowed in the depths of humility.
and He said, "The sin is pardoned, but the blessing is lost to thee;
For comforting not the least of mine, ye have failed to comfort Me."

- Mrs. Emma A. Lent

Matt. 25:45, "Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me."

Heb. 13:2, "Be not forgetful to entertain strangers; for thereby some have entertained angels unawares."

- Selected by Sister Sarah Roesch
R. 1, Box 156, West Unity, Ohio

NEWS ITEMS

MINISTERIAL LIST CHANGES

The telephone number of Elder George Replogle has been changed to 513/947-1074. His address remains unchanged.

The address of Brother Robert W. Carpenter has been changed to R. 5, Peru, Indiana 46970. His telephone number remains unchanged.



WAUSEON, OHIO

The Lord willing, the Lovefeast services at West Fulton will be on Saturday evening, May 17. There will be all day services on Saturday. Come and enjoy these meetings with us.

- Sister Leola Beck, Cor.



THANK YOU

I wish to express my sincere thanks to all the brothers, sisters, and kind friends who remembered me recently with a birthday and get well card shower. May God richly bless each one for the numerous cards, gifts, and prayers in my behalf.

- Sister Elsie Keeney



Make room in your heart for Jesus, and He will make room in Heaven for you.

CHILDREN'S PAGE

JOSEPH PRESENTS JACOB TO PHARAOH

Gen. 47:1-12

Jacob and all his sons were in Egypt. They had come a long way with their wives, their children, their possessions, and their herds. The cities of Egypt were probably larger than any they had ever seen. They were used to dwelling in tents. In Egypt were beautiful buildings of stone with carvings of every descriptions. What a sight this was to the people of the desert. This was where Joseph lived and was ruler over all this great land. This was the country which in the years of plenty had stored up corn in large storehouses. Now that the famine had come everyone had plenty to eat. It had all come about through Joseph who trusted in God and God had revealed unto him the things that should come to pass. Pharaoh was well pleased with Joseph and when he heard that Joseph's father and brothers had come to live in Egypt he wanted them to have the very best land. This was the land of Goshen; an irrigated delta land on the river Nile. Here they could grow all kinds of crops and have good pasture for their flocks.

Joseph loved his father, Jacob, and brought him unto Pharaoh, the great king of Egypt. The Bible says that Jacob blessed Pharaoh. This may mean that he said, "The Lord be with thee," as the custom was then or he may have prayed to God to bless and care for Pharaoh. Pharaoh had been good to Joseph and had also given Jacob and his family a secure place to live in this time of famine. At least we know that Pharaoh was well pleased that Joseph's father had come to see him. Pharaoh asked Jacob how old he was and Jacob told him he had lived for one hundred and thirty years. Jacob was a wanderer, like Abraham and Isaac before him. God had promised them the land of Canaan for an inheritance and they were seeking for it. Jacob's life had been full of trouble but in many ways the Lord had blessed him and taken care of him.

As long as Joseph lived and the Pharaoh of that time ruled, Jacob's people had peace but after Joseph died another Pharaoh rose up and the children of Jacob, now called Israel, were not treated so well. They finally became slaves to the Egyptians and four hundred years later another man of God called Moses, with God's help, delivered them.

Sometimes it seems like God has forgotten His people but God never does. We must trust God completely because He knows what is best for us.

- Brother Rudy Cover

OBITUARIES

JOSIAH BENJAMIN FLORA

Was born in Franklin County near Rockymount, Virginia, on November 30, 1874. He departed this life at Spurgeon Manor in Dallas Center, Iowa, on February 14, 1975.

On April 24, 1898 he was married to Sarah Elizabeth Jamison. To this union twelve children were born. He was preceded in death on September 30, 1974, by his wife, also one daughter, Mary Adcock, in 1952. The surviving children are: Florence Reed, Manitou Springs, Colorado; Muncie Flora, Union Bridge, Maryland; William Flora, Dallas Center, Iowa; Katie Smith, Pueblo, Colorado; Ernest Flora, Denver, Colorado; Ollie Riggs, Mulberry, Arkansas; Ruby Mitchell, Henderson, Maryland; Anna Umland, Des Moines, Iowa; Beulah Moss, Dallas Center, Iowa; Esther Keller, Dallas Center, Iowa; Joseph Flora, Adel, Iowa.

In 1909 they moved to Quinter, Kansas, where they made their home until 1944 when they moved to Dallas Center, Iowa.

He was baptized at an early age into the Church of the Brethren and in 1928 became a charter member of the Quinter, Kansas, Dunkard Brethren Church.

He leaves to mourn his departure the eleven children; thirty-nine grandchildren; a large number of great-grandchildren; and several great-great-grandchildren. Also many nieces, nephews, and friends.

Funeral services were held on Monday, February 17, 1975, at the Dallas Center Dunkard Brethren Church. Elder Ray Reed and Brother Fred Pifer conducted the services. Burial in the Brethren Cemetery.

- Sister Juanita Reed

LLOYD J. MILLER

Son of Christ and Laura (Beck) Miller was born November 16, 1900, and departed this life on March 13, 1975, at the Fulton County Health Center at the age of 74 years, 3 months, and 28 days.

On December 11, 1921, he was married to Minnie Frey, who passed away April 13, 1961. To this union were born five children: Orville, Louetta, Lawrence, Ruth, and Martha.

He was again married to Ada King on September 8, 1962.

He is survived by his wife, Ada; three children, Louetta and Lawrence of Archbold, Ohio, Mrs. John (Martha) Herr of Holtwood, Pennsylvania;

twelve grandchildren; one brother, Charles, and a foster sister, Eva Reynolds, both of Wauseon, Ohio.

Preceding him in death were his parents; one brother, Maurice; his first wife, Minnie; and two small children.

In his youth he accepted Christ as his personal Saviour and united with the Mennonite Church, remaining true to his baptismal vows to the end. The last twelve years he attended the Pleasant Ridge Dunkard Brethren Church.

ENOUGH FOR ME

I am so weak, dear Lord, I cannot stand

One moment without Thee;

But, oh, the tenderness of Thine enfolding!

And, oh, the faithfulness of Thine upholding!

And, oh, the strength of Thy right hand!

That strength is enough for me.

I am so needy, Lord, and yet I know

All fullness dwells in Thee;

And hour by hour, that never failing treasure

Supplies and fills in overflowing measure,

My least and greatest need, and so

Thy grace is enough for me.

It is so sweet to trust Thy Word alone.

I do not ask to see

The unveiling of Thy purpose, or the shining

Of future light on mysteries untwining.

Thy promise-roll is all my own -

Thy Word is enough for me.



TO TAKE TIME. . . "Deliver us, O Lord, from the foolishness of impatience. Let us not be in such a hurry as to run on without Thee. We know that it takes a lifetime to make a tree; we know that the fruit does not ripen in one afternoon, and Thou, Thyself didn't take a week to create this universe. Slow us down, O Lord, that we may take time to think; time to pray; and time to find Thy will. Then give us the sense and courage to do it, for our good, and for the glory of Thy name." Amen.

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Paul R. Myers
Box 117
Greentown, Ohio 44639

BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LIII

MAY 15, 1975

NO. 10

"For the faith once for all delivered to the saints."

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and
Scriptural in practice.

OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all
the world and preach the gospel.

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

When Thou Passest Through The Waters

Do you feel your heart discouraged as you pass along the way?
Does there seem to be more darkness than there is of sunny day?
It is hard to learn the lesson, as we pass beneath the rod,
That the sunshine and the shadow serve alike the will of God.
But to me comes a promise, like the promise of the bow,
That however deep the waters they shall never overflow.

When the flesh is worn and weary and the spirit is depressed,
When temptation comes upon you like a storm on ocean's breast,
There's a haven ever ready for the tempest-driven bird,
There is shelter for the tempted in the promise of the Word;
For the standard of the Spirit shall be raised against the foe,
And however deep the waters they shall never overflow.

When the sands of life are ebbing and I near dark Jordan's shore,
When I see the billows rising and I hear the waters roar,
I'll reach out my hands to Jesus, in His bosom I will hide;
It will only be a moment till I reach the other side.
It is then the fullest meaning of the promise I shall know:
"When thou passest through the waters they shall never overflow."

- Henry Crowell

LIBERTY OR LICENSE

We are living in a day in which people revel in the freedoms which they have taken unto themselves. This is a time in which so many want no restraint whatsoever over them, but want the liberty to engage in anything they desire. If we would but stop and consider a moment we would realize that such liberty is not liberty at all but is the most shackling of all slavery. Many men have been imprisoned for that in which they believed yet they were far more free than those whose minds are taken captive by Satan at his will.

Since the bars of restraint have been let down to such a great extent, people are encouraged to engage in activities that only a few years ago would not have even been considered. We hear much about the "new morality" and "situation ethics." It appears that this is but an invitation to be guided in one's conduct by whatever the group is doing, rather than by what is right or wrong. We need more preachers today who would hold forth God's Word in such a way that man's spiritual ears would be able to hear the still small voice, "This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye shall turn to the right hand and when ye shall turn to the left." Isa. 30:21.

Today we are confronted by the drug problem which seems to be rapidly gaining in usage especially among young people. Drugs have their place in the medicinal field. Indeed, what would we do without them? But as with other of God's provisions for our health and happiness we may misuse them. The danger is in "situation ethics" where young people are drawn in because of their association with others and have not the courage to refuse to participate. It is that first trial that is one's downfall.

THE BIBLE MONITOR**MAY 15, 1975**

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Another problem is pornographic literature. This is something which is available at almost any newsstand. There are even papers of this general nature in some large grocery stores, displayed where all patrons easily see them, another evidence of the "new morality." The Supreme Court ruled on obscenity thus: the question of pornography hinges on "whether the average person, applying contemporary (present) community standards, the dominant theme of the material as a whole appeals to the prurient (lascivious, lewd) interest." In other words, not to be judged by God's Word but by present community standards.

A further indication of the direction of the civilization of our day is the increasing support of sexual license. The cry is made that our standards are too high. Those who would hold up high standards are accused of being too "Puritanical." Such an accusation is but an attack on the Word of God. The Bible has considerable to say about sexual sins. Paul says of such ". . . let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints." There are many today who not only want to bring sex into the open but want to put it on display. There are those who want to make sex education a part of the public school program. Many of the teachers who advocate this are not Christian and their standards are far below the standards of the home from which the children come. This is not in the best interest of all concerned.

These are only a few of the problems that confront us. Television itself contributes to these problems because it vividly portrays all of these things as well as brutality, murder, and disrespect for authority. Those things which the young see and hear on television are indelibly stamped upon their minds. Because of these things, minds are being miseducated and moral virtues are laughed at.

Many are in the position of the Jews of Jesus' day as they accosted Him. He said to them, "If ye continue in my word. . . ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free." Jn. 8:31, 32. Their reply was, "We be Abraham's seed, and were never in bondage to any man." Jesus then said, ". . . whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin." There are so many in bondage, mistakenly thinking they have liberty.

"I am come that they might have life and that they might have it more abundantly." Jn. 10:10. What shall it be, liberty or license?



Christ will not live in the parlor of our hearts if we entertain the devil in the cellar of our thoughts.

A LIGHT IN THE WINDOW

While traveling along a lonely road at night, you see a tiny light ahead by the roadside. As you come nearer, you see that it is a light in the window of someone's home. You pass on, comforted by knowing you are not entirely alone. You know you can return to this home and very likely receive help if you need it. You would hesitate to rouse someone from sleep, but if a light shines through the window, you appeal for help with confidence.

When we need help at night, we head toward a light because it indicates a source of help. When we need spiritual help, we must head toward a light also - God's light. God did not place His light in a window, but He did send His only Son into this world to give us light and life. Jesus said, "I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life." John 8:12. Sometimes God waits many years before we see His light, but when we do, then we can be forgiven and reinstated in His family. A son had rebelled against the good training he had received from his parents. He left home so he could do as he pleased. His mother had always placed a lighted candle in the window when he went out for the evening. She now lit a candle and placed it in the window every night, hoping he would return. It was many years before he became so sick of sin that he did come home. When he saw the light in the window, he knew that a warm welcome awaited him. Like the prodigal son, he was forgiven, and reinstated in the family.

There was a special reason why God placed a light before us. There was a special reason why the mother placed a light in the window for her son. The father of the prodigal son was moved by the same force. Do you know what it is? It's love! Without love, there would be no "light in the window" for anyone, no welcome home from a life of sin.

The prodigal son returned to his father and received forgiveness. His older brother was angry because his father forgave him and reinstated him in the family. He didn't think his brother deserved such special treatment after the way he had done. When our Heavenly Father forgives a wayward one, are we ready to welcome that one as part of God's family? Or are we unloving and unforgiving, wishing him or her to continue suffering in sin? Where such an attitude is, there is no light, or love.

When we have turned from sin, and received forgiveness, then we are given a light with which to help others. Many are searching for a light; they need help from someone who cares, and we can help if we will. We are not to hide our light as if we are ashamed, but it should be visible to all around us. If we stay close to God, the source of our light, our light

will stay bright. "Ye are the light of the world, A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid." Matt. 5:14.

A sinner needs to do more than just see the light in you; he needs to come close to God so the light can be generated in him. Let him know you want to help and that you will welcome him warmly. He may rouse you from sleep, or knock at your door seeking help when you are at your busiest. Before you say, "Please call some other time," stop and think what God did for you. Stop and think that there may not be another time for the wayward one to get help.

If you have experienced God's forgiving love, if His light is now a part of your life, don't try to keep it to yourself. Someone lost in sin needs your help. Take time now to love, to counsel with and guide the one who truly needs the light. "The way of the wicked is as darkness: they know not at what they stumble." Prov. 4:19. They will continue to stumble around in darkness unless you help.

Please put a "light in your window" for those who need God's light, Jesus Christ, in their hearts.

- Sister Eileen Broadwater

ANSWERED PRAYERS

Part 14

When people obeying God's Word pray, beautiful things happen. Grudges disappear. Love bubbles to the surface. God opens new channels of blessings. Pride is deflated. Hearts are humbled. Attitudes change. Broken homes are healed.

Prayer welds Christians in a spiritual bond as they hold each other up before the Throne of Grace. Prayer lifts burdens that can be lifted no other way.

Amazing things happened when our Lord prayed for the people. Amazing things still happen when we pray. An amazing thing took place on one occasion when Peter prayed. This lesson is recorded in Acts 9:36-43.

In the ancient city of Joppa lived a follower of Jesus named Tabitha, also called Dorcas. She was full of good works and almsdeeds. She made clothes for the poor.

While Peter was at the neighboring town of Lydda, Tabitha died. The disciples at Joppa sent an urgent message to Peter to come to them without delay. The disciples had confidence that perhaps Peter would be able to help in some way.

In the meantime, those close to Tabitha, after her death, washed her body and laid it in an upper chamber. When Peter arrived he found her already prepared for burial. He also saw her body surrounded by many

who she had helped and befriended, and they were in tears.

Widows were weeping. They showed coats and garments Dorcas had made for them. This certainly was a touching scene. Death always is touching. Exceptionally so, when the one who has passed away was such a benefactor of mankind.

Peter viewed the situation. In his heart he knew that in himself he could do nothing. He knew what he could do. He could pray.

The Word says Peter put all the people forth. Then he kneeled down and prayed, imploring the most high God for assistance. Amazing things began to happen. Peter not only prayed in faith, but he turned to the dead body and said, "Tabitha, arise." She opened her eyes. When she saw Peter, she sat up. Peter helped her to her feet, then presented her to the saints and widows alive.

This great miracle moved the city of Joppa. Many believed in the Lord.

This answered prayer not only restored Dorcas to life, but led many to Christ. It pays to pray for God does answer prayers.

Brother Paul R. Myers
Box 117, Greentown, Ohio 44630

BLIND

"Show me your God!" the doubter cries
I point him to the smiling skies;
I show him all the woodland greens;
I show him peaceful countryside scenes;
I show him winter snows and frost;
I show him waters tempest-tossed;
I show him hills, rock-ribbed and strong;
I bid him hear the thrush's song;
I show him flowers in the close
The lily, violet, and rose;
I show him rivers, babbling streams;
I show him youthful hopes and dreams;
I show him maids with eager hearts;
I show him toilers in the marts;
I show him stars, the moon, the sun;
I show him deeds of kindness done;
I show him joy, I show him care,
And still he holds his doubting air,
And faithless goes his way, for he
Is blind of soul, and cannot see!"

Truly, we can almost visualize a lost soul whose eyes are blinded to God. Do we care for lost souls? Do people about us know that we have and believe in a God?

Do we have a cheery smile for our neighbor or do we pass him by without noticing him? Do we talk of God's creation and marvelous works or do we see how much we can gossip? Do we read the Bible and have our family devotions or do we think that since company has come we will just forget it till tomorrow? Do we sing songs of Zion just on Sunday and then through the week sing worldly songs? Do we help our neighbor one minute and the next minute steal from him?

Are we like the doubter who cried, "Show me your God?" Or are we relying on Him and trusting in His Word?

The Lord told His disciples to be not of a doubtful mind. "And seek not ye what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink, neither be ye of doubtful mind." Luke 12:29.

I trust that we will not be blind and doubt God's handiwork and His blessed Word as this poem reads. Let us shed a light around about us and let others know that we do have and believe in a God.

- Sister Shirley Frick

R. 1, Box 192D, New Madison, Ohio 45346

ARE WE READY?

A Thought Provoking Look At The Revelation

There may well be a one world government by the year 2000! Why? The problem of war, poverty, economic disparity, ecological imbalance, and the like are continuing to grow into a larger problem daily. This period of history we live in, I believe, has no parallel since the days Jesus Christ walked on this earth. We are in a period of prophetic events.

We know that the Bible teaches of a great world leader. A world government under that leadership will come about due to great crisis we are told, in the last days. All we have to do is look through the newspapers to see the above problems being fulfilled today. We are on the very brink of the return of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. It might well occur in our generation. The period of the last seven years could start at any time! This period is called the "tribulation" - seven years unlike any in history. Matt. 24. Unless those days are cut short, no man would be left on earth.

The stage is set today for the events of the last days. The Jews were

predicted to be scattered throughout the entire world and that they would eventually come back as a nation. This was accomplished in 1948. They were to gain control of old Jerusalem. This control and subsequent rebuilding began in 1967. Daniel and Ezekiel says there will be an enemy to the north that will become a military power. Russia fills this bill well. A confederation of Arab states is to occur to try to reclaim Palestine. Dan. 11. Look at the power formation in that area today.

A power in the Orient with two hundred million soldiers is to come into being, the sleeping giant of Red China, no doubt.

The ten nation confederation (Common Market of Europe) is to be set up. This is now close to happening. In fact, I heard on the radio this week that some European country will now only purchase items or allow imports from other Common Market nations. Does this put America in an awkward position?

Of course, if we know Jesus Christ, we won't have to be concerned with these things, but we should be aware of them as they happen. This awareness should make us realize our responsibility to teach Jesus Christ to all people.

A series of judgments are to occur in the seven year tribulation. These have been recorded in the book of Revelation. Chapter six picks up the beginning of the seven year period. These years will start with the seal judgments. Each seal is broken by Christ and each judgment happens as He reveals them.

How would you describe something beyond anything you had ever seen or experienced? When I was in Africa, I experienced this when trying to relate to things that were relevant to conditions in America in my teaching. These relationships were quite foreign to my students. You have to use terms and knowledge available and relevant to you. John relates the things he saw by prefacing with the statement, "it was as it were. . ." In other words, what it looked like to him.

How might the Apostle John describe a thermonuclear war? Or how would he describe fractional orbital bombs coming from a space platform? As a shooting star? Consider this! He was describing things that are now technically possible due to the world situation or due to weapons and science. If it were not for the restraint of God, man would have already destroyed this world. His goodness and mercy has prevented this. (Read II Thess. 2)

Some of the last crescendos of judgment are poured out in Rev. 11, vs. 18, this verse ending in. . .to destroy those who destroy the earth. In other words the judgments are against man who destroys the earth and the vial judgments are poured out on them.

A multitude of people will come through the tribulation period and will be saved. Rev. 7.

In the sixth chapter, we read of the four horses of the apocalypse.

The first was a white horse. The first seal opening, we feel, takes up the first three and one half years of the seven year period. It is a period of pseudo peace. The rider on the white horse is the great dictator (antichrist) who is to rule the world. A new religion will function then. It will be tied in with mysticism, witchcraft, etc. Can we see this sordid combination of ideas beginning to take shape today?

Daniel says he will have plans to help cure all the ills of the world. This leader will seem to have the solutions to the world's problems. Thess. 5.

Then the second seal will be broken and the second horse goes forth. It is red and takes peace from the earth. War! The antichrist seemed to have brought peace, then it all breaks loose. Ezekiel 38 indicates the relationship of the Arabs and Russians in this war and this situation is spring loaded today. This is the start of the war of Armageddon and it will eventually envelop the entire world.

Then, the third seal will be broken and a black horse will go out with a rider holding a weight and balance. And the words cried out are a quart of wheat for denarius and three quarts of barley for denarius. This is economic catastrophe! As war breaks out, the delicate ecology and earth situation will be shattered.

A denarius at the time this was written was the average day's wage of a worker, and a quart of wheat was the daily ration of food for a Roman soldier. In other words, it will take a man's entire paycheck for a day for that day's ration of food. The inferior grain, barley, might allow subsistence for a family of three people. Economic disaster!

At the breaking of the fourth seal, a pale horse goes forth. The rider on this horse is called death and hades. He brings death to a quarter of the earth's population. A fourth of the earth will be killed with warfare, with famine, pestilence, and by the wild beasts of the earth. Imagine, the animals being so upset that they actually attack man - civilized man! We know that high amounts of radiation can cause highly abnormal behavior in animals. Could this be God's plan?

With four billion people on earth, a billion people will go into eternity at this one time.

World experts have already predicted the famines to occur. In the book, "Famines 1975," each prediction is happening right on schedule. Our leaders in this country should have read this book before giving away our grain reserves. We have virtually no food reserves in this "land of plenty" at this time. By late this year, a massive famine is predicted to occur in the underdeveloped nations. Apparently the antichrist, when he arrives on the scene, will solve this problem for a while. He may have some plan for redistribution of food stuffs. War will break out again and the famines will once again occur.

Then, the fifth seal is broken and John says he saw underneath the

altar of heaven the souls of those who had been slain because of the word of God and because of the testimony which they had maintained.

The fifth seal marks the tremendous persecution of those who believe in Jesus Christ. If the Lord delays His coming to this earth, we could see physical persecution of believers right here in free America. The sides are getting more polarized all the time. Followers of Jesus are receiving less respect and more hatred than ever. A slaughter of believers as occurred in the Old Testament time will once again occur in the future.

As the sixth seal is broken, we see a great earthquake, the sun blackened, the moon becoming as blood and the stars of the sky falling to the earth as the fig tree casts its figs to the earth when shaken by a strong wind. The sky was split apart like a scroll when it is rolled back and every island and mountain are moved out of their places. The kings of the earth and the great, hide themselves in caves and rocks and ask them to fall on them. They are actually praying to these inanimate objects rather than to the living God. Could this be the first great nuclear exchange of the future? It is to be mixed with a great earthquake. John says something that looked like stars falling from the sky, as a fig tree casts its ripe figs out. In other words it was like a shower of meteors hitting the atmosphere. This is exactly what an intercontinental ballistic missile looks like when it hits the atmosphere. It trails a streak of red fire behind it because of the speed with which it enters the atmosphere. He might well have observed a great nuclear exchange.

In chapter 6, verse 14, we find the sky splitting apart like a scroll when it is rolled up and every mountain and island being moved out of their place. When an atomic bomb blows up, the atmosphere literally is pushed back upon itself and rolls up. After that, it mashes back into the vacuum and there is nothing left standing when that happens. A first century look at a twentieth century happening!

After these happenings there is a gracious interlude as illustrated in chapter seven. Many Jewish people will be miraculously converted to Christ. They will witness to the world. There is to be a silence in Heaven - indicating again a loving God's patience and slowness in bringing total judgment. God is not willing that any should perish. II Peter 3:9.

May we remember at this point that there is promised a special blessing to the reader of Revelation. Let us read it prayerfully, study it and think!

After this delay, after every chance is given, the seventh seal is broken and the trumpet judgments are poured out. These are staggering to the mind. A summary of the content of four are considered here.

The first angel (vs. 7) sounded and there came hail and fire mixed with blood, and they were thrown to the earth and a third of the earth was burned and a third of the trees were burned up and all the green grass

was destroyed. Literally, green grass is interpreted here as grain. (As given in the Greek.)

People in the atomic energy field tell us that in the event of an all out nuclear war that the area from the Appalachians mountains to the Rocky mountains would become a virtual lake of fire. The oxygen would literally burn and spread the fire from area to area. The heat from the H-bomb would set off fires for hundreds of thousands of square miles. This must then be the second nuclear strike and a large exchange between the great powers of the earth.

Remember, with the burning of the trees and grain in an already famine ridden earth, the earth becomes totally unbalanced.

Then, the second angel sounds and it was as it were a great mountain burning with fire was cast into the sea and the third part of the sea becomes as blood. H-bombs set off in the sea look exactly like this. As a result a third of the sea becomes blood, a third of the sea creatures die, and a third of the ships are destroyed. This might well be a great nuclear strike against a great navy in the atlantic ocean enroute to the Middle East. In California, there is an oceanographic phenomenon called "red tide." It is caused by a great growth of minute organisms suddenly reproducing rapidly and if it continues it kills the sea life. The main cause of this red tide is a predominance of cobalt. Large releases of cobalt due to a cobalt bomb set off could easily cause a red tide that would wipe out sea life and produce the blood like look. A great tidal wave caused by the explosion would demolish all ships within a large radius.

In verse 10, the third angel sounds and a great star falls from heaven burning like a torch or lamp and falls upon a third of the rivers and water and the name of the star is called Wormwood, which means poison. This could be radio activity and nuclear debris polluting and poisoning the water. Drinking this water causes death.

The fourth angel sounds, causing one third of the sun, a third of the moon, third of the stars, to cease shining. Could this once again be repercussion of a great thermonuclear war? Consider it: All the atmospheric debris could cut out a third of the light from reaching the earth. Even today we're seeing weather changes due to scientific changes of the atmosphere.

The great finale described later in the book continues with even greater tribulation.

Verse 10 of chapter 3 brings a great promise to those of the church who have kept the Word. Because of their keeping the words of God's patience, He will keep His followers from the hour of testing--that hour which is about to come upon the whole world to test those who dwell upon the earth.

Tracing through Revelation, we see "those who dwell upon the earth" referred to throughout the book, as in 6:10; 8:13; 11:10; 13:8.

These people on the earth have rejected the will of God and are left when the Church is taken out before this great tribulation period.

I feel the purpose of the great tribulation is to test these people. In contrast to them, the Scripture says He will keep His followers from this trial. Its purpose is not to try the believer.

Christ may come at any moment and in a twinkling of the eye, in a fraction of a second, the dead in Christ will rise and the living in Christ will be caught up together with Him in the clouds and so shall ever be with the Lord.

What a hope for us--to go to be with Him. You know this can happen at any time, because of the fulfillment of His promise to believers and because of the obvious nearness of the tribulation period.

Again, we are living on the very edge of the moment when Christ will take out His Church. The stage is set. Are we ready? If Christ came at this moment, do we know we would be taken with Him. We must be prepared at all times, striving continually to do His will. And not only must we be prepared, but we must daily tell those around us the wonderful news of Jesus that they might believe and be caught up in the clouds with Him too. A twofold goal! A twofold responsibility!

- Brother Leonard Wertz

If this article causes some to consider what may be before us, it will serve a useful purpose.

It may be some cannot agree with every statement, but let us remember the Bible Monitor policy of staying clear of mere controversy.

- Editor



SEEKING GOD'S IDEAL FOR MY LIFE. . .I wish I were:

...BIG enough to honestly admit all of my shortcomings.
 ...BRILLIANT enough to accept flattery without it making me arrogant.
 ...TALL enough to tower above deceit.
 ...STRONG enough to treasure love.
 ...BRAVE enough to welcome criticism.
 ...COMPASSIONATE enough to understand human frailties.
 ...WISE enough to recognize my own mistakes.
 ...HUMBLE enough to be thoughtful of my neighbors.
 ...RIGHTEOUS enough to be totally devoted to God.
 PLEASE GOD, make me like this!

CHILDREN'S PAGE

NO MONEY FOR CORN

Gen. 47:11-26

How would you like to live in a country where you had never been before? How would you like to live where people looked different, acted different, talked another language, and had many customs that you had never known? This is what happened to the families of Jacob whose name God changed to "Israel." In the 46th chapter of Genesis is given the names of the families of Israel and their children. There were seventy all together that came into Egypt. This was called the land of Goshen. Here the land was rich and could grow good crops but at this time the famine was still on the land and everybody depended on Joseph for food that he had stored in the years of plenty.

Joseph charged for the corn and put the money he received for it in Pharaoh's treasury. At last there was no more money among the people of Egypt. Pharaoh had it all. Now what were the people to do? Joseph had plenty of corn but the people had no money to buy. Finally the people came to Joseph and said, "Give us food to eat or we will die; all our money is gone."

Now Joseph was a wise man and he said, "Give your cattle for food." So they brought their cattle unto Joseph and he gave them food in exchange for horses, and for flocks, and for herds, and for asses and he fed them all that year for their livestock.

At the end of the year Pharaoh had all the cattle and the Egyptians came to Joseph again and said, "Our money is spent and you have all our cattle; we have nothing left but our bodies and our lands. We will sell ourselves and our land to you and we will be servants to Pharaoh. Give us seed to plant that the land will not waste when the rains come again." The people were desperate and they were willing to do anything to keep from starving.

Joseph was not only wise but he was kind. He took the people's land for Pharaoh and then said to them, "I have bought you this day and your land for Pharaoh. Here is seed for you to plant the land. You may keep four parts of all you grow but you must give the fifth part to Pharaoh."

I think the people had it better than they did before, don't you? Joseph saved the people of Egypt by the great wisdom God had given him. When they had no money to buy food Joseph still found a way to save their lives. Doesn't this make you think of what Jesus did for us? "While we were yet sinners Christ died for us." Rom. 5:8. When we had no way of paying the debt of sin, Jesus paid it for us. Now we can sing a new song, "Jesus paid it all; all to Him I owe." - Brother Rudy Cover

JUST A CANDLE

Lord, let me be a candle if no lighthouse I can be,
 For even the smallest candle can light someone to Thee;
 Let Thy Light that shines above me kindle Thy Light within my heart,
 And though it be but just a candle, let it shine, Lord, on Thy part.

When my candle would flicker and be blown by Satan's blast,
 Lord, give me grace and courage, and Thy joy shall not pass;
 Though the winds of doubt and error blow their gales upon me,
 Lord, keep me glowing brightly for Thy blessings I would see.

No great lighthouse I would be, Lord, that's too big a task for me,
 Just let me be a candle right where You would have me be;
 And when other lights flash brighter than this little one of mine,
 Thank you, Lord, for letting me know that I, too, am one of Thine.

Though I cannot be a lighthouse and no beacon on the hill,
 Lord, help me be a candle in Thy Perfect, Knowing Will;
 When my candle seems dim and almost out to all the rest,
 Lord, thank You for telling me, You reward for Faithfulness.

Perhaps no great lighthouse the Lord would have you be,
 Perhaps no beacon flashing across a storm-tossed, raging sea;
 Just a little candle burning brightly in some place along the way,
 Trim your light! Burn brighter, for you, too, shall hear Him say:
 "Enter in thou good and faithful servant, enter into My perfect rest,
 You have done the things I told you, you have done your very best."

- William L. Winstead

Selected by Sister Grace E Reed

NEWS ITEMS

LITTLESTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

Revival meetings at Walnut Grove Congregation will begin June 13 through June 22, 1975. The Lord willing, Elder Laverne Keeney from Lititz, Pennsylvania, will be the evangelist. Your prayers and attendance will be appreciated.

- Sister Betty Shelly, Cor.



BEAUMONT, CALIFORNIA

The Winter Haven Church held District Meeting on March 28-29, with our Lovefeast Saturday evening, also services on Sunday.

Pray for us at this place.

- Sister Dora Spurgeon, Cor.



NOTE OF THANKS

I wish to thank all who remembered me with birthday cards and gifts on my 75th birthday. I received one hundred and four cards. Thanks again. May God bless each one.

- Sister Emma Sauerwein

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR JUNE

June 1 - The Wisdom of God Revealed. I Cor. 2:1-16

June 8 - Building upon the Foundation, Jesus Christ. I Cor. 3:1-23

June 15 - Paul's Experience as a Minister of Christ. I Cor. 4:1-21

June 22 - TEMPERANCE - Titus 2:1-15

June 29 - Purifying the Church. I Cor. 5:1-13

QUESTIONS:

- (1) How do we get the revelation of the wisdom of God? I Cor. 2:10
- (2) What should a man build upon in order to be saved? I Cor. 3:11
- (3) What did Paul mean, "We are fools for Christ's sake?" I Cor. 4:10;
Luke 6:22
- (4) Why is Christ called our "Passover?" I Cor. 5:8; Isa. 53:7

DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR JUNE, 1975

COME

Memory Verse, Psalms 50:3

Our God shall come, and shall not keep silence; a fire shall devour before him, and it shall be very tempestuous round about him.

Sun. 1 - Psalm 42:1-11

Mon. 2 - Psalm 46:1-11

Tues. 3 - Psalm 50:1-23

Wed. 4 - Psalm 53:1-6

Thurs. 5 - Psalm 55:1-23

Fri. 6 - Psalm 62:1-12

Sat. 7 - Psalm 65:1-13

Memory Verse, Psalm 53:6

Oh that the salvation of Israel were come out of Zion! When God bringeth back the captivity of his people, Jacob shall rejoice, and Israel shall be glad.

Sun. 8 - Psalm 66:1-20

Mon. 9 - Psalm 69:1-36

Tues. 10 - Psalm 71:1-24

Wed. 11 - Psalm 72:1-20

Thurs. 12 - Psalm 78:1-37

Fri. 13 - Psalm 78:38-72

Sat. 14 - Psalm 79:1-13

Memory Verse, Psalm 66:16

Come and hear, all ye that fear God, and I will declare what he hath done for my soul.

Sun. 15 - Psalm 80:1-19

Mon. 16 - Psalm 83:1-18

Tues. 17 - Psalm 86:1-17

Wed. 18 - Psalm 88:1-18

Thurs. 19 - Psalm 91:1-16

Fri. 20 - Psalm 95:1-11

Sat. 21 - Psalm 96:1-13

Memory Verse, Psalm 91:7

A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee.

Sun. 22 - Psalm 98:1-9

Mon. 23 - Psalm 100:1-5

Tues. 24 - Psalm 101:1-8

Wed. 25 - Psalm 102:1-28

Thurs. 26 - Psalm 109:1-31

Fri. 27 - Psalm 118:1-29

Sat. 28 - Psalm 119:41-48

Memory Verse, Psalm 95:1

O come, let us sing unto the Lord: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.

Sun. 29 - Psalm 119:73-80

Mon. 30 - Psalm 119:169-176

Memory Verse, Psalm 96:8

Give unto the Lord the glory due unto his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts.

Psalms 100:2

Serve the Lord with gladness: come before his presence with singing.

Paul R. Myers
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Greentown, Ohio 44630

BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LIII

JUNE 1, 1975

NO. 11

"For the faith once for all delivered to the saints."

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

GOD'S PERMISSIVE WILL

The mind of man can never understand
The mystery of God's permissive will.
But when the way of human wisdom fails
Then faith comes forth and cries, I trust Him still.

We stand perplexed before our stricken friends,
And we are grieved to see their constant pain.
Although we pray most earnestly for them
Our prayers and pleadings seem to be in vain.

We cannot comprehend why some who live
In harmony with God's holy will,
Are called to face a deep and bitter grief
While others walk in pleasant pathways still.

We then are prone to ask the question, Why?
Just why are some required to suffer so?
Again faith gives the answer clear and strong;
God knows, and some day thou shalt fully know.

Faith then received with deep abiding peace
The mystery of God's permissive will.
And all through life, in sunshine or in shade,
We'll walk by faith and say, I trust Him still.

- Albert Simpson Reitz

A SURE THING

If we were asked concerning the surest thing we know, we possibly could consider several things of which we feel sure. But just what would that one thing be? It is quite apparent that many are unsure of themselves or even of life itself. We live in unsettled times, times of fear and worry.

In fact the Bible cautions us against being too sure of ourselves and our plans. James 4:13, 14, "Go to now, ye that say, Today or tomorrow we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain: Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow." We are made to realize our lives are in the hands of the Lord and if it is His will, we shall live and do this or that.

We have heard it said in a light manner that two things are sure, death and taxes. While this may be a rather inappropriate observation, yet Job realized the uncertainty of life for he said, "He draweth also the mighty with his power; he riseth up, and no man is sure of life." Job 24:22.

The Bible has many things in it that are disturbing to the minds of men. Jesus said, "Beware ye of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy. For there is nothing covered, that shall not be revealed; neither hid, that shall not be known. Therefore whatsoever ye have spoken in darkness shall be heard in the light; and that which ye have spoken in the ear in closets shall be proclaimed upon the house tops." Luke 12:1-3. Jesus was here speaking of hypocrisy, of professors pretending to be something they are not. Let us as professors be sure that we are also possessors for Heb. 4:13 tells us that "...All things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do."

In Numbers 32 we have an account of the tribes of Israel preparing to enter into the land of Canaan. The tribes of Reuben and Gad asked for

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their portion on the east side of Jordan, but they promised to first cross Jordan and help the other tribes subdue the land. Upon this promise Moses granted their request with the warning that if they failed to do so, "...be sure your sin will find you out." Num. 32:23. This is one of the great texts of the Bible. We believe this to be a sure thing. There is abundance of evidence throughout the Bible beginning with Adam and Eve to prove that one can be sure his sins will find him out, if not in this life, then at the judgment.

As we go through life we may meet with many things that disturb us. One of the things that most people desire is peace, yet there are comparatively few who have really found it. The Bible tells us that there is a time coming in which men shall say "Peace and safety," thinking perhaps that at long last they have attained the peace they so desire, but then it says that sudden destruction cometh upon them. When man's peace of mind is threatened, one possible reaction is to refuse to face reality. In this state of mind, man is often willing to be deceived, either by himself or by others.

Many are willing to be deceived concerning salvation. Many feel that they can be saved without being born again. But Jesus said, "...except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." John 3:3. And again, "...except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God." John 3:5.

There are those who feel that whatever they do is right, but Proverbs 14:12 says, "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death." How careful we need to be that what we believe and do is according to God's Word. "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall be also reap." Gal. 6:7.

Some believe that God is too good to let anyone be lost. The Revelator says, "Whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire." Rev. 20:15. Again he says, "He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son. But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone, which is the second death." Rev. 21:7, 8. Be sure your sin will find you out.

No, we can't deceive God. It is even questionable whether one can really deceive himself. Adam and Eve knew in their hearts they had sinned for they didn't want to face God. But they tried to deceive Him. They tried to justify themselves in His sight by their own efforts. When one tries to deceive, he becomes troubled and restless in mind and spirit. Isaiah 57:20, 21 says, "The wicked are like the troubled sea, when it cannot rest, whose waters cast up mire and dirt. There is not peace, saith my God, to the wicked." Be sure your sin will find you out.

PREACHING

I Cor. 1:21, "For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe." Preaching is a plan originated by God to bring people to the Gospel Light which is the only thing that can save our souls. It is entirely opposite from the wisdom of this world and the carnal thinking of man.

Some of the first preaching we have recorded was before the flood, as given in II Peter 2:5, "And spared not the old world, but saved Noah, the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly." Again, in Jude 14, 15, "And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousand of his saints, to execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him."

As we stop to consider the work that is before the ministry today, we can realize that our work is not a new work. If our preaching is not accepted by the world today, it also was not accepted by the great majority of people in ages past. Enoch must have realized the great opposition to God's plan that existed in those days.

In the New Testament times, John the Baptist started preaching as the forerunner of our Lord and Saviour. Mark 1:3, 4, "The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. John did baptize in the wilderness, and preach the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins." Again, after John was put in prison, "Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent ye, and believe the gospel." Mark 1:14, 15.

It seems it was very much the plan of God that John and God's dear Son preached for a certain purpose. Repenting and believing the gospel certainly was necessary then as the way of salvation, just as we believe it is needful today. It is still the command of God and we cannot change the charge.

Just what procedure was used in the charge to John we do not know, only that St. John tells us in John 1:6, "There was a man sent from God, whose name was John." Then too, in Luke 1:17, "And he shall go before him in the spirit and power of Elias, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just; to make ready a people prepared for the Lord." We take it for granted that the preaching charge John had was a direct charge from the Lord. His

mission was to prepare a people for the coming of the Lord. By doing this the disobedient were to be turned from their disobedience to the wisdom of the just.

Worldly wisdom would not stand then in the sight of God. Only by turning and accepting the way (which the world calls foolishness) can they be prepared for the coming of the Lord. In order to accomplish this they must repent and turn to God which would imply a broken (carnal) spirit. Then it is that God can work with them and guide them.

Matt. 28:18-20, "And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen."

I believe we can understand that the teaching made mention of by our Lord would mean the same thing as preaching. He mentions that He has all Power in heaven and in earth. Who are we then to reject this great charge? If we do we are trying to fight against God. But then a promise is given that He would be with them even unto the end of the world. If this was necessary for them it certainly is necessary for us today if we desire His presence to be with us and to help us.

It would appear that later in the New Testament a charge to the ministry was given in connection with prayer and the laying on of hands. As in Acts 6:6, "Whom they set before the apostles; and when they had prayed, they laid their hands on them." II Tim. 1:6, "Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands." Also, in I Tim. 4:14, "Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery." I feel that our Church is trying to follow the Scriptures in the procedure it follows for the special gift that comes from above through prayer and the laying on of hands.

I feel there is no power on earth that can compare to the power given by our Lord to those who receive this great work, and are obedient to the great promise given in Matt. 28:20.

But we must be very careful to follow the Gospel. In Gal. 1:8, "But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed." Almost the same words are given in the following verse of this same chapter. No wonder the Apostle Paul was so convinced of this very thing that he could say in Rom. 1:16, "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek."

May we humbly accept the way He has given and praise the Lord for it.

Brother Melvin Roesch

ANSWERED PRAYERS

Part 15

Paul was an Apostle of the Lord Jesus Christ. He had much power in prayer. God heard his prayers and we have on record answers to his prayers.

We read in Acts 28:8 as follows, "And it came to pass, that the father of Publius lay sick of a fever and of a bloody flux: to whom Paul entered in, and prayed, and laid his hands on him, and healed him."

This ill man had the equivalent of what we identify as dysentery. There was little at that time that man knew what to do for bloody flux. The disease often took on epidemic proportions. Apparently Publius' father was very ill. He was sufficiently ill to have a fever.

The Apostle Paul, knowing that this man was very ill, appealed to the great Physician. He prayed to God. The Word says, "He laid his hands on Publius' father."

How thankful we should be that in trying times, and at our extremities, we can pray to God. It can be at any hour, day, or night. God is always available if we are on praying terms with him. Paul was, and the man was healed. God heard and God answered.

In I John 3:22 we read, "And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight." This is a wonderful promise of God. He does His part when we do ours.

One of the rewards of a righteous life is answered prayers. God is pleased when we keep His commandments and He is displeased when we do not keep them. When we obey Him and live according to His Word, He shows His pleasure by giving us whatsoever we ask in accordance with His will.

Luke 11:9 confirms I John 3:22, "And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you."

We are dealing with and praying to the same God Paul prayed to. He answered Paul's prayer and He certainly does answer our prayers. Do we thank Him for His answers, however He answers, which are always best for us?

- Brother Paul R. Myers
Box 117, Greentown, Ohio



Satan trembles when he sees the weakest saint upon his knees.

LITTLE THINGS MEAN A LOT

Shamgar had an ox-goad, Rahab had a string;
Gideon had a trumpet, David had a sling.
Samson had a jaw-bone, Moses had a rod;
Dorcas had a needle - all were used for God.

- Anon.

God created many little things - insects, tiny flowers, grains of sand, the snowflakes. Each thing is an important part of the world we live in and praises Him, no matter how tiny by serving its purpose well. In our lives we can praise Him in many small ways if we serve our purpose well. Our true character is revealed by the little things we do, whether for ourselves or others, and indicates our attitude about God.

There are little ways we can show that God's love is in our hearts. A kind word, a pleasant smile, a helping hand, all are expressions of thoughtfulness. Encouragement given to someone when everything is going wrong, a personal note added to a get-well card, advice which helps someone get closer to God, are other expressions of your concern for others. We may not think what we do is important, but Jesus said, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." Matthew 25:40. We truly show our love for Him by the little things we do for others.

There are little ways by which we show when God's love is not in our hearts, that sin is present instead. If we are dishonest, unkind, or selfish, it shows especially in little ways. A young man was to be promoted in the bank where he worked but lost the promotion because of a pat of butter. In the cafeteria, the bank president saw him hide a pat of butter in his mashed potatoes to avoid paying for it. The bank president recommended another for the promotion. Because of his dishonesty, the young man couldn't be trusted with greater responsibility. He paid a high price for his "little" sin. If we sin in little ways, we can be sure God sees us, and the price we must pay will be high. Sin cannot be hidden.

Little things can spoil our attempts to live for our Lord; they can also reveal hypocrisy and self-righteousness. The Pharisees revealed their hypocrisy in many little ways. They were very careful to observe certain things, omitting others entirely. Jesus said they would "strain at a gnat and swallow a camel." They paid tithes of mint, anise, and cummin - very small seeds - but they omitted more important matters - judgment, mercy, and faith. They were very careful to appear righteous on the outside, but inside, they were full of sin. They washed their hands before eating, condemning the disciples for not doing so; Jesus knew that their hearts, not their hands, were defiled and needed the cleansing.

Little deeds can bring us a blessing or a curse. A man with a withered hand was in the Temple on the Sabbath Day. When he stretched out his hand at Jesus' command, he was healed. The woman who followed Jesus in the multitude received healing when she touched the hem of His garment. The widow's meal and oil were multiplied during the famine, because she made a little cake first for Elijah, then for herself and her son, as she was commanded. Their little actions revealed their faith and they were blessed. Judas betrayed Jesus with a kiss, a deed which indicated his hypocrisy and one he never truly repented of. Pharisees were condemned because of many little traditions which they religiously observed, while ignoring God's commands.

Little things in God's hands can accomplish surprisingly great things. Jesus used the few loaves and fishes to feed the multitudes. The widow gave her two mites; it wasn't much but it was all she had and she wanted God to have it. We may not have much to give but God can use it if we give all we have willingly. We may have only a few cents to give, or a little food for one who is hungry, but God expects us to do what we can. If you desire to give more or do more than is now possible, do what you can now. When you have done well in little responsibilities, God will bless you and give you the ability or the means to do more.

"Little self-denials, little honesties, little passing words of sympathy, little nameless acts of kindness, little silent victories over favorite temptations - those are the silent threads of gold which, when woven together, gleam out so brightly, in the pattern of life which God approves." - Farrar

If you want these "threads of gold" in your life, pay attention to the little things. Jesus said, "Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven; but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven." Matt. 5:19. Little things do mean a lot!

Sister Eileen Broadwater



A CHECKUP ON FAITHFULNESS. . . If your CAR started four out of five times, would you consider it faithful?

If your WATCH ran 23 out of 24 hours each day, would you consider it to be a faithful, loyal timekeeper?

If your DRUGGIST filled your prescription carefully 9 out of 10 times, would you consider him a trustworthy and faithful man?

NOW, why not apply this little lesson to your church attendance and giving!!!!

CHILDREN'S PAGE

JACOB DIES AND IS BURIED

Gen. 50:1-13

Jacob lived seventeen years in Egypt. These were possibly the happiest years that Jacob experienced. Although he was old his family was together again. Joseph, his favorite son was ruler in Egypt; they had the best of land and prospered. The Egyptians respected Jacob and Joseph's brothers because of Joseph who had done so much for them. Jacob blessed Joseph's sons, Ephraim and Manasseh. He also foretold what would happen to the families of all his sons. Before Jacob died he asked to be buried in the cave where Abraham and Isaac and their wives were buried in Canaan. When he had finished commanding his sons, Jacob died. He had lived one hundred and forty-seven years. His sons would become the twelve tribes of Israel (Jacob).

Joseph had an enormous funeral for Jacob. He was embalmed after the manner of the Egyptians which took forty days. This was so the body would be preserved. Even today they find Egyptian bodies called "mummies" that are still preserved remarkably well. The custom of that day, especially for people of importance, was to mourn for them. Paid musicians and singers would lament and wail for the one who had died. They mourned for Jacob seventy days.

Joseph took his father's body to Canaan to bury him. All the servants of Pharaoh, the elders of Pharaoh's house, and all the elders of Egypt went along. Also all the servants of Joseph, his family, and his brothers and their families went - only their little ones and their flocks were left in Egypt. "And there went up with him both chariots and horsemen: and it was a very great company." This would have been a sight to see. Here was a man who had been a wanderer most of his life. He had trouble with his father-in-law, trouble with his brother, had believed that Joseph was dead, and had lost his wife, Rachel. Here was a man whose heart had been full of sorrows and yet God was with him and blessed him. Because of Joseph, the saviour of Egypt in a time of famine, Jacob was given a funeral that would have been an honor to a Pharaoh. After they crossed the Jordan river Joseph mourned for his father seven days and they buried Jacob in the cave of the field of Machpelah.

Jacob made mistakes and had trouble in his life but he believed in God and wanted God to bless him. Let us be faithful to God even though at times it seems hard. God will not forget His people. He wants us to live lives for Him and He will bless us.

Brother Rudy Cover

THE SHEPHERD'S PSALM

How familiar this Psalm is the world over. Go where you will, inquire in every nation, tongue, and tribe under heaven where the Bible is known, and you will find this Psalm among the first Scriptures learned and lisped by the little children at their mother's knee.

This Psalm is so individual because it is so universal.

Have we ever noticed just where this Psalm is located? It lies between the twenty-second and the twenty-fourth Psalm. A very simple statement that is; but how deep and wondrous a lesson lies hidden therein.

The twenty-second Psalm, what is it? It is "The Psalm of the Cross." It begins with the words uttered by Christ on the cross. "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" It ends with the exclamation of the cross, "He hath done it," or as it may be translated, "It is finished." The twenty-second Psalm, then, is the Psalm of Mount Calvary - the Psalm of the cross.

What is the twenty-fourth Psalm? It is the Psalm of Mount Zion, a picture of the King entering into His own.

How beautiful it reads: "Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lifted up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in. Who is this King of glory? The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory." The twenty-fourth Psalm, then, is the Psalm of the coming kingdom of glory.

There we have the two mountains, Mount Calvary and Mount Zion. What is it that lies between two mountains? A valley with its green grass, its quiet waters, its springing flowers, with the shepherd and grazing sheep. Then, here is the lesson we learn from the location of the Psalm - it is given to comfort, help, inspire, and encourage God's people during this period of life, between the cross and the crown.

This Psalm is written in the present tense. "The Lord is my shepherd . . . He maketh me to lie down; . . . He leadeth me"; even the last verse, "I will (not I shall) dwell in the house of the Lord for ever."

Let us never forget that we reach the twenty-third Psalm by the way of the twenty-second Psalm - the Psalm of the cross. "The way of the cross leads home."

Brother Clarence R. Gehr
Dallas Center, Iowa 50063



There is something wrong with the man who knows the right way to take and still wants time to think about it.

PROPHECY AND FULFILLMENT

Prophecy: Isa. 7:14, Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign: Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

Fulfillment: Matt. 1:23, Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.

Prophecy: Micah 5:2, But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.

Fulfillment: Matt. 2:5, 6, And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judea; for thus it is written by the prophet, And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, art not the least among the princes of Judah: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel.

Prophecy: Hosea 11:1, When Israel was a child, then I loved him, and called my son out of Egypt.

Fulfillment: Matt. 2:15, And was there until the death of Herod; that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Out of Egypt have I called my son.

Prophecy: Jer. 31:15, Thus saith the Lord; A voice was heard in Ramah, lamentation, and bitter weeping; Rahel weeping for her children refused to be comforted for her children, because they were not.

Fulfillment: Matt. 2:17, 18, Then was fulfilled that which was spoken by Jeremy the prophet, saying, In Rama was there a voice heard, lamentation, and weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, and would not be comforted, because they are not.

Prophecy: Jer. 23:5, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth.

Isa. 11:1, And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots.

Zech. 3:8, . . . For, behold, I will bring forth my servant the BRANCH.

Zech. 6:12, . . . Behold the man whose name is The BRANCH; and he shall grow up out of his place, and he shall build the temple of the Lord. (The word, The BRANCH, is referring to Jesus when He came to build His church.)

Isa. 4:2, In that day shall the branch of the Lord be beautiful and glorious, and the fruit of the earth shall be excellent and comely for them that are escaped of Israel.

Fulfillment of the five above prophecies: Matt. 2:23, And he came

and dwelt in a city called Nazareth; that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, He shall be called a Nazarene.

Prophecy: Isa. 40:3, The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Fulfillment: Matt. 3:3, For this is he that was spoken of by the prophet Esaias, saying, The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, and make his paths straight.

Prophecy: Deut. 8:3, . . . That he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the Lord doth man live.

Fulfillment: Matt. 4:4, But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

Prophecy: Psalms. 91:11, 12, For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways. They shall bear thee up in their hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone.

Fulfillment: Matt. 4:6, And saith unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee; and in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone.

Prophecy: Deut. 6:16, Ye shall not tempt the Lord your God, as ye tempted him in Massah.

Fulfillment: Matt. 4:7, Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God.

Prophecy: Deut. 6:13, Thou shalt fear the Lord thy God, and serve him, and shalt swear by his name.

Fulfillment: Matt. 4:10, Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.

Prophecy: Isa. 9:1, 2, Nevertheless the dimness shall not be such as was in her vexation, when at the first he lightly afflicted the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, and afterward did more grievously afflict her by the way of the sea, beyond Jordan, in Galilee of the nations. The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.

Fulfillment: Matt. 4:14, 15, 16, That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, The land of Zabulon, and the land of Nephthalim, by the way of the sea, beyond Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles; The people which sat in darkness saw great light; and to them which sat in the region and shadow of death light is sprung up.

Prophecy: Isa. 53.

Fulfillment: Matt. 4:17, From that time Jesus began to preach, and to

say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

Prophecy: Isa. 53:4, Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.

Fulfillment: Matt. 8:17, That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses.

Prophecy: Mal. 3:1, Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me; and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in; behold, he shall come, saith the Lord of hosts.

Fulfillment: Matt. 11:10, For this is he, of whom it is written. Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee.

Prophecy: Mal. 4:5, 6, Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord: And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse.

Fulfillment: Matt. 11:14, And if ye will receive it, this is Elias, which was for to come.

Prophecy: Isa. 42:1-4, Behold my servant, whom I uphold; mine elect, in whom my soul delighteth; I have put my spirit upon him; he shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles. He shall not cry, nor lift up, nor cause his voice to be heard in the street. A bruised reed shall he not break, and the smoking flax shall he not quench; he shall bring forth judgment unto truth. He shall not fail nor be discouraged, till he have set judgment in the earth; and the isles shall wait for his law.

Fulfillment: Matt. 12:17, 18, That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Behold my servant, whom I have chosen; my beloved, in whom my soul is well pleased; I will put my spirit upon him, and he shall shew judgment to the Gentiles.

Brother W. E. Bashor
867 Lorna Drive, Glen Ellen, California 95442



The Bible as a book stands alone. There never was, nor ever will be, another like it. As there is but one sun to enlighten the world naturally, so there is but one Book to enlighten the world spiritually. May that Book become to each of us the man of our counsel, the guide of our journey, the inspiration of our thought, and our support and comfort in life and death.

CHURCH COWS

As I drive along the road,
Many things I see,
Yonder are a dozen cows
Beneath the maple tree;
While the glowing sun shone,
Glaring in the burning heat
There they lie and chew their cud,
In contentment sweet.

As I sit in church sometimes,
Something there I see,
That reminds me of the cows
Beneath the maple tree.
Men and women, boys and girls,
People, here and there
Jaws are moving just like cows,
No difference, I declare.

There is not sin in chewing gum,
Guess it isn't wrong,
But there are some places where
It surely don't belong.
Chew it here, chew it there,
Any place you roam
But when you go to church, my friends
Leave your gum at home.

Just imagine how we'd look
In the world to come;
Talking to our blessed Lord,
Mouths a full of gum.
Guess it's just a habit here,
But it's out of place,
Say! Let's stop a chewing gum
In God's house of grace.

NEWS ITEMS

CHANGE

FIRST - Young men reaching the age of 18, after April 1, 1975 do not have to register. An opportunity may be given after the first of the year. Ample notice will be given.

SECOND - Those who registered before March 31, 1975 should now have SSS Form I filled out and be classified 1-H.

If anyone who registered before March 31, 1975 has not received a 1-H classification, please write me.

Your Executive Secretary,
Ray S. Shank
117 Beaver Street, Box 263
Dillsburg, Pennsylvania 17019



THANKS

I desire to express deep appreciation and thanks to all the brethren, sisters, relatives, and friends who remembered me during my illness, with their many sincere prayers, encouraging letters, the shower of cards, gifts, flowers and visits. We know God will richly bless each one. As it seems my recuperation will be slow please continue remembering me at the throne of grace.

- Sister Hilda F. Strayer



ONE DAY SOON, we shall hear the last words, "It is finished" - your life and mine. The Scribe of the years will have placed the last period after the last word and will have blotted the page. What is written will remain an indelible record. No year, month, day, hour, or minute can be recalled and relived. Regrets will be futile. We shall be stripped of everything but character. We shall carry with us only what we are. Only one word will matter then - His Word! And happy shall we be if, out of the shadowy evening of life when our day is full of hush, we hear Him speaking softly, "Well Done!"

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Paul R. Myers
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BIBLE MONITOR

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JUNE 15, 1975

NO. 12

"For the faith once for all delivered to the saints."

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

TO BEGIN THE DAY

A moment in the morning, ere the cares of day begin,
Ere the heart's wide door is open for the world to enter in;
Ah, then alone with Jesus, in the silence of the morn,
In heavenly, sweet communion let your duty day be born.
In the quietude that blesses with a prelude of repose,
Let your soul be soothed and softened, as the dew revives the rose.

A moment in the morning, take your Bible in your hand,
And catch a glimpse of glory from the peaceful promised land;
It will linger still before you when you seek the busy mart,
And, like flowers of hope, will blossom into beauty in your heart;
The precious words, like jewels, will glisten all the day,
With a rare effulgent glory that will brighten all the way.

A moment in the morning - a moment, if no more -
Is better than an hour when the trying day is o'er.
'Tis the gentle dew from heaven, the manna for the day;
If you fail to gather early - alas! it melts away.
So, in the blush of morning take the offered hand of love,
And walk in heaven's pathway and the peacefulness thereof.

- Anonymous

TO WHOM SHALL WE GO?

"From that time many of his disciples went back and walked no more with him. Then said Jesus unto the twelve, Will ye also go away? Jn. 6:66, 67. Several times recently, we have heard someone ask in view of present conditions of the world in general and this nation in particular, "What can we do? Where can we go?"

Here it is Jesus asking the question, "Will ye also go away?" What pathos! What loneliness, sadness, and sorrow are evident in these words! We are told that "Elias was a man subject to like passions as we are," Jas. 5:17, and we feel this is true also of our Saviour, for we read "The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us. . ." Jn. 1:14.

"And he goeth up into a mountain, and calleth unto him whom he would: and they came unto him. And he ordained twelve, that they should be with him, and that he might send them forth to preach. And to have power to heal sicknesses, and to cast out devils." Mk. 3:13-15. We see that Jesus had chosen them and that He had a purpose for their lives. He empowered them for this work, then sent them into the world. Jn. 17:18. Now He asks, "Will ye also go away?" If there is joy in Heaven over one sinner that repents, what sorrow there must be in Heaven when some slip back into the world.

"To whom shall we go?" Jn. 6:68. Surely not to the scribes and Pharisees, for Jesus had pronounced several woes upon them. "Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye are like unto whited sepulchres, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead men's bones, and of all uncleanness." Matt. 23:27. Surely not to the philosophers of that day. "For all the Athenians and strangers which

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were there spent their time in nothing else, but either to tell, or to hear some new thing." Acts 17:21. Surely not to men of either low or high degree, for "Men of low degree are vanity and men of high degree are a lie: to be laid in the balance, they are altogether lighter than vanity." Psalms 62:9. Surely not to any man himself for "What man is he that liveth, and shall not see death? shall he deliver his soul from the hand of the grave?"

Psalms 89:48. Surely not to the wise, the mighty, nor the rich for "Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, neither let the mighty man glory in his might, let not the rich man glory in his riches: But let him that glorieth glory in this, that he understandeth and knoweth me, that I am the Lord.." Jer. 23, 24.

No, we are not to turn to so-called religious leaders of the day, nor to the philosophers, nor to any man, whether he be wise, mighty, or rich, but unto the Lord. "Neither is there salvation in any other; for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." Acts 4:12. Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life; no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." John 14:6.

"Thou hast the words of eternal life." John 6:68. "Thou hast" is in the present tense. This is still true now even as it was then. Men often speak of what they have done in the past, of what they expect to do in the future, but Jesus has the words of eternal life even now. We are admonished to let no man deceive us. Matthew 24:4.

What are these words of eternal life? He says, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." There is rest promised to those who are wearied with the troubles and trials of this life.

There is strength and nourishment for the prophet says, "Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart; for I am called by thy name, O Lord God of hosts." Jer. 15:16. Then we have the hope of being "caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air; and so shall we ever be with the Lord." We as Christians have something to look forward to, "Wherefore comfort one another with these words." I Thess. 4:18.

Jesus said, "Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I will also keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth." Rev. 3:10. Surely, these are trying times into which we are entering and is this promise not true unto us in our day? "To whom shall we go? Thou hast the words of eternal life!"

A GLIMPSE OF CHURCH HISTORY

In the year 1708, some Bible students could not accept the State church because of persecution thereof. After much Bible study, truly searching the Scriptures and with long prayer meetings, eight souls led by Alexander Mack came to a very grave decision.

They decided to break away from the State church and start a new movement, which they felt was closer to God's Divine injunction. These eight souls were baptized in the Eder River by Alexander Mack. Who baptized him first was a secret among the eight which they never revealed.

Shortly afterward, in Mack's home the first Lovefeast in Europe was observed. This was the actual birth or beginning of what we recognize as the Dunkard Church. They were constantly troubled by the State church. Some of the followers of this movement were harmed bodily, but they would not recant.

Because of their mode of baptism they were referred to as Tunkers or Dunkers. From this nickname was derived the name of our church, namely Dunkard.

Among the eight a few names are on record. Of course, Alexander Mack was from Schwarzenau; Luke Vetter was from Hesse-Cassel, Germany; Andrew Bony was from Basle, Switzerland; John Kipping was from Bareit in Wurtemberg. History states that they were refugees from intolerance and persecution.

After this group of eight made the start others joined in the work. They were recognized as Pietists, meaning peaceful, reverent to God and devoted to religion. They had a firm belief that Jesus had given them a creed and had likewise given them the necessary ordinances to keep their body of believers steadfast to Him.

The Schwarzenau Congregation flourished from the beginning. Soon there was a Congregation in Creyfelt in 1715.

The Schwarzenau Congregation was bitterly persecuted in 1720 and fled for protection to Westervain, in West Friesland. Here they prospered for nine years.

This persecution sprung from variances in belief between the State church and the Schwarzenau group. The State church believed in infant baptism; the Brethren did not. Other discrepancies caused them to migrate to Friesland, which is in Germany.

Alexander Mack, who was the leader of the movement, had opposition from a man named Ernst Christop Hochmann, also from Schwarzenau. They could not agree on church polity. Through long discussions and much prayer, Alexander eventually had the privilege of

baptizing Brother Mochmann. When Mack came to America, he left Hochmann in charge of the group in Germany.

Upon the death of Ernst Hochmann, he was buried in an old orchard near Schwarzenau. I saw his grave when I visited Schwarzenau. Alexander Mack is buried in Germantown, Pennsylvania.

The Germantown Congregation became the mother church in the U.S.A. from which sprang many congregations over the years. Among the devout leaders of the early church besides Alexander Mack, were Peter Becker, Conrad Beissel, Christopher Sower, and others. These men were leaders. They were devout and very sincere in their faith in God. They had opposition and discouragements to face as does everyone who attempts to live a life separate from the world. To stand on one's convictions takes courage.

An outstanding man in the early church in America was Elder Peter Keyser. he was a descendant from a noted Mennonite family. His father who was the first by the name of Keyser to join the church was baptized by Alexander Mack on October 5, 1769. Peter Keyser was baptized on September 25, 1784.

At an early age he could repeat from memory most of the Holy Bible. Someone made the remark that if all the Bibles would be destroyed it could be restored as long as Peter Keyser lived. He was called to the ministry in 1785 and died in May, 1849, in the house in which he had been born.

Needless to say, the Church in America flourished, even amid troubles from within and without.

Brethren migrated from Schwarzenau to Denmark in 1737, twenty-nine years after the founding of the Church. From there the movement spread to Norway and Sweden.

The first triune baptism in Norway was in 1742, when twenty-five were immersed by Soren Bolle at Drammon.

Christian Hope, a powerful man of God went to Denmark in 1876, two years after the Assembly of Christ was established in 1874.

The Assembly in Denmark is somewhat patterned after the teaching of Alexander Mack. But there are differences of which we learned while in Denmark, at their invitation to come and preach our doctrine. Other than the Assembly of Christ in Denmark there is little evidence in Europe of Alexander Mack's work. The members of the Assembly are very devout.

The Church of the Brethren sent missionaries to Europe and at one time they had a good foothold. Today there are no churches of the Brethren or Dunkard churches in Norway, Denmark, Sweden, or Germany.

There is a small group near Schwarzenau who claim their ancestry

from Mack, and some of their doctrines from before Mack's time. They number upward of an hundred. They are identified as The Ebenezer Assembly of Christ. They are a devout group. They have lost some of the doctrine, no longer observing all the ordinances. We were to their services. They are dedicated to their form of worship. They are gaining new members. I recently had direct information that they enlarged their place of worship.

Leading up to our beloved Church as time progressed the mother church wandered away from her original doctrines. Farther than some could conscientiously follow. There was a growing dissatisfaction and also a growing trend to separate from the mother church and start a new organization.

This trend of wanting to return to the former principles of the church brought about the Church Paper of the Dunkard Brethren, named the Bible Monitor. The first issue was published in October, 1922, with Elder B. E. Kesler as Editor. It has continued publication to date with Elder Walter Bird of Converse, Indiana as our present Editor.

The object of starting the Bible Monitor was to inform the general public, and especially those interested in the new movement. It served as an information service. Also, it was designed to bring together those who felt a new organization was needed.

Many letters and inquiries were received by Brother Kesler through the Bible Monitor. A meeting was called to be held at Denton, Maryland, September 12, 1923. The object of the meeting was "to consider the course to pursue" which the Bible Monitor was advocating. This meeting was well supported. It is recorded history that the spirit of the meeting was excellent and that the Holy Spirit was present.

At that meeting a creed or form of doctrine was formulated, based principally on the polity once practiced by the mother church. One who was present throughout that entire meeting summed up his observations with these words, "Much good came from the little meeting held in Denton, Maryland, September 12, 1923. May the influence going out from it cause our brethren to take heed to their ways and lead them to seek the old paths of truth and righteousness."

The second Monitor meeting was held at Uniontown, Pennsylvania, June 5 and 6, 1924. There was a good attendance of brethren and sisters who wanted the Bible Monitor's purposes to succeed and they were willing to help to that end. One of the decisions of that meeting was, "To push the Bible Monitor movement with new vigor."

June 4-5, 1925, a meeting was held at Wauseon, Ohio, for the purpose of unity and understanding and as to why the need of a new organization. Other meetings were called in various parts of the brotherhood.

Two barn meetings were held in Pennsylvania at the residence of Henry Kegerreis. These meetings were held the first Sunday in June and the first Sunday in July, both meetings beginning at 2:00 p.m. Reports of these meetings were very favorable.

Between the many meetings held here and there and the letters received by the Bible Monitor Editor, Elder B. E. Kesler, advocating a separation from the Church of the Brethren, many felt there was sufficient support to warrant a meeting to seriously consider starting a new Church. This meeting was held at Plevna, Indiana on June 23 and 24, 1926.

Many attended this meeting. It was unanimously decided that a new organization would be formed, since it was impossible to change the worldly practices of the mother church. The name of the new organization would be called The Dunkard Brethren Church.

From the very beginning, plain groups pulled away from the mother church and started new Dunkard Brethren congregations. Every member should be thankful for the Dunkard Brethren Church. If we live up to her principles we will not be conformed to the world. We will not follow madam fashion as the world does. We will not go where the world goes. We will be a separate people as God's Word asks of us.

Let us support our Church. Let us pray for her. Let us respect her. Let us obey her. Let each member pray for her ministry that when Jesus comes we may be a part of the bride and be garnered into the Kingdom of Heaven.

- Brother Paul R. Myers
Box 117, Greentown, Ohio 44630

THE CHRISTIANS INNER GLOW

Observe with me a group of people and notice their various expressions. Some look happy, some are sad; some look lonely, others show the effect of a sinful life. The most outstanding is the expression of a child of God. The Christian's face expresses joy, purity, and a heart-felt peace. This is a reflection of what's inside - the Christian's inner glow.

The firefly, or lightning bug has a built-in glow, activated on the inside by something unseen. It shines the brightest when the night is darkest. A child of God likewise has an inner glow, activated by an unseen force. It can shine the brightest where sin has caused much darkness. The power of God's love within produces this glow, which radiates out where all can see it.

"A merry heart maketh a cheerful countenance" and "A merry heart

doeth good like a medicine." Prov. 15:13; 17:22. A truly merry heart is one rejoicing in God's love. When you are merry, your face will glow from it. Your joy, thus revealed, can bring a bit of sunshine to those around you. There are times when people are filled with despair, and the joyous expression of a child of God can help lift them up and renew their hope.

Someone has said, "Get an inside shine, and you will soon have a face to match it." When your face glows with God's love, you attract people to you. They want to know what makes you happy; they will be interested in the peace which your expression indicates you have inside. Can you show them how God's love can make life a joy for them? Can you tell them why you are at peace, even when all is confusion around you?

"A man's wisdom maketh his face to shine and the boldness of his face shall be changed." Ecc. 8:1. Stephen's face shone "as it had been the face of an angel." Acts 6:10 says "they were not able to resist the wisdom and spirit by which he spake." God was with Stephen in a special way as he made his defense. Moses' face shone after he had been with God on Mt. Sinai to receive the law. The radiancy was there because he, too, had been with God.

Wisdom was given to Moses and Stephen because they feared the Lord. "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; and the knowledge of the holy is understanding." Prov. 9:10. This is the kind of wisdom that makes an "inside shine," a glow which you may not be aware of, but others know it's there. Your wisdom and knowledge of that which is holy indicates that you have been with God.

If you want an inner glow, but do not have it, something must take place in your heart first. There is no room for God's love until the old things are removed. The selfish desires and sinful attitudes must go. "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature; old things are passed away; behold, all things become new." II Cor. 5:17. When you are new in Christ, then God can give you an "inside shine." He can give you love, joy, and a desire to share your blessings with others.

To shine is to beam with a steady radiance, not on and off like the firefly. To glow indicates light plus warmth. Christians are the light of the world, giving forth a continual light. God's love lends a special warmth to this light which attracts sinners and strengthens saints. God is glorified when we shine for Him. "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in Heaven." Matt. 5:16.

God's love, His wisdom, His very presence in our lives gives us a radiancy that all can see. Our faces won't shine as Moses' and Stephen's did, but the glow will be there. It indicates that we have a per-

sonal relationship with Christ, the source of light. With Christ in control of our lives, we will radiate God's love to those around us. Our faces will reflect the peace and joy that are within. This is the Christian's inner glow!

- Sister Eileen Broadwater

THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

BABY MOSES

A long time ago after Joseph, the ruler of Egypt died, a little baby boy was born to the wife of a man named Levi. They were Hebrews, who were descendants of the twelve sons of Jacob. They had increased in number till the Egyptians feared that the Hebrews would take over Egypt. Then there arose a Pharaoh over Egypt that was king a long time after Joseph had died. He was afraid of the Hebrews and decided to make slaves of them and to make them work so hard that they wouldn't have many children. But the Lord blessed the Hebrews and the harder the Egyptians worked them, the more they multiplied. Finally Pharaoh got so worried he commanded that all the boy babies should be thrown into the river and drowned as soon as they were born.

When the wife of Levi saw her baby boy was such a healthy child she loved him and could not let him be destroyed, so she hid him from the Egyptians for three months. At last she realized she could hide him no longer. She had to do something fast as there were soldiers watching everywhere. Taking a basket made of reeds, she covered it with pitch so that it wouldn't leak. She made a lid for it so the sun wouldn't burn her baby and laid him in this little boat and put it in the river near the place where Pharaoh's daughter came down to bathe. The wife of Levi had an older daughter and she watched her baby brother from a distance to see what would happen.

Pharaoh's daughter came down to the river and seeing the little basket floating among the reeds, sent one of her maids to get it. When she opened the little boat the baby cried and Pharaoh's daughter loved it and said, "This is one of the Hebrew children."

The sister of the little baby ran to the daughter of Pharaoh and said, "Shall I go and call a nurse of the Hebrew women that she may nurse the child for you?"

And Pharaoh's daughter said, "Go." The baby's sister ran and called her mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to the mother, "Take this child away and nurse it for me, and I will pay you wages." So the baby's

mother nursed the baby and the child grew and was brought up to be the son of Pharaoh's daughter. And she called his name Moses, because she drew him out of the water. Moses means to be "drawn out."

I think Moses' mother trusted God. Don't you? When we have trouble and it looks bad for us, do we trust God to care for us?

- Brother Rudy Cover

ANSWERED PRAYERS

We read in Matt. 18:19 the following words of Jesus. "Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching anything that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven."

This is a very choice promise given by Jesus Himself. He taught the disciples to pray. His Word teaches us to pray. Jesus often times prayed. More is accomplished in prayer than we recognize or give God credit for. Prayer springs out of a sense of need and a belief that God is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him.

Jesus stated in Matt. 18:20, "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

Two or three, in unity, with Jesus in their midst have much power in prayer. If they ask anything within God's will it shall be done. That clinches the truth of the statement that God does hear and answer prayers.

History records an event that took place when President Woodrow was faced with a very grave situation. There were difficulties in international negotiations and President Wilson was much troubled. He knew that some solution must be agreed upon and that he did not know how to proceed.

With a very solemn countenance, he called a few of his cabinet members to his office. He said, "I do not know whether you men believe in prayer or not, but I do. Let us pray and ask the help of God." He fell to his knees. Those about him did the same. The President of the United States prayed to God for help. God heard his prayers and God answered them.

Dr. Knox, Bishop of Manchester, related the instance of a miner who resorted to prayer. One day in the mine, working with another miner, a part of the roof of the mine caved in, very near where he was working. Rumbling and dust permeated the mine. The two men prayed for deliverance.

Much time elapsed before they were rescued, but God heard their prayers, though they were uttered deep under ground. His answer was their deliverance.

- Brother Paul R. Myers

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PROPHECY AND FULFILLMENT

Prophecy: Isa. 6:9, 10. And he said, Go, and tell this people. Hear ye indeed, but understand not; and see ye indeed, but perceive not. Make the heart of this people fat, and make their ears heavy, and shut their eyes; lest they see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and convert, and be healed.

Fulfillment: Matt. 13:14, And in them is fulfilled the prophecy of Esaias, which saith, By hearing ye shall hear, and not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and shall not perceive.

Prophecy: Psa. 78:2, I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings of old.

Fulfillment: Matt. 13:35, That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying, I will open my mouth in parables; I will utter things which have been kept secret from the foundation of the world.

Prophecy: Isa. 29:13, Wherefore the Lord said, Forasmuch as this people draw near me with their mouth, and with their lips do honour me, but have removed their heart far from me, and their fear toward me is taught by the precept of men.

Fulfillment: Matt. 15:7, 8. Ye hypocrites, well did Esaias prophesy of you, saying, This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me.

Prophecy: Mal. 4:5, 6, Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord; And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to the fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse.

Fulfillment: Matt. 17:10-13, And his disciples asked him, saying, Why then say the scribes that Elias must first come? And Jesus answered and said unto them, Elias truly shall first come, and restore all things. But I say unto you, That Elias is come already, and they knew him not, but have done unto him whatsoever they listed. Likewise shall also the Son of man suffer of them. Then the disciples understood that he spake unto them of John the Baptist.

Prophecy: Isa. 62:11, Behold, the Lord hath proclaimed unto the end of the world, Say ye to the daughter of Zion, Behold, thy salvation cometh; behold, his reward is with him, and his work before him.

Zech. 9:9, Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem; behold, thy King cometh unto thee; he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass.

Fulfillment: Matt. 21:4, 5, All this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying, Tell ye the daughter of Sion,

Behold, thy King cometh unto thee, meek, and sitting upon an ass, and a colt the foal of an ass.

Prophecy: Psa. 8:2, Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings hast thou ordained strength because of thine enemies, that thou mightest still the enemy and the avenger.

Fulfillment: Matt. 21:16, And said unto him, Hearest thou what these say? And Jesus saith unto them, Yea; have ye never read, Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings thou hast perfected praise?

Prophecy: Psa. 118:22, The stone which the builders refused is become the head stone of the corner.

Fulfillment: Matt. 21:42, 43, Jesus saith unto them, Did ye never read in the scriptures, The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner; this is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes? Therefore say I unto you, The kingdom of God shall be taken from you, and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof.

Prophecy: Psa. 41:9. Yea, mine own familiar friend, in whom I trusted, which did eat of my bread, hath lifted up his heel against me.

Fulfillment: Matt. 26:24, The Son of man goeth as it is written of him; but woe unto that man by whom the Son of man is betrayed! It had been good for that man if he had not been born.

Prophecy: Zech. 13:7, Awake, O sword, against my shepherd, and against the man that is my fellow, saith the Lord of hosts; smite the shepherd, and the sheep shall be scattered; and I will turn mine hand upon the little ones.

Fulfillment: Matt. 26:31, Then saith Jesus unto them, All ye shall be offended because of me this night; for it is written, I will smite the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock shall be scattered abroad.

Prophecy: Zech. 11:12, 13, And I said unto them, If ye think good, give me my price; and if not, forbear. So they weighed for my price thirty pieces of silver. And the Lord said unto me, Cast it unto the potter; a goodly price that I was prised of them. And I took the thirty pieces of silver, and cast them to the potter in the house of the Lord.

Fulfillment: Matt. 27:9, 10, Then was fulfilled that which was spoken by Jeremy the prophet, saying, And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the price of him that was valued, whom they of the children of Israel did value. And gave them for the potter's field, as the Lord appointed me.

Prophecy: Psa. 22:18, They part my garments among them, and cast lots upon my vesture.

Fulfillment: Matt. 27:35, And they crucified him, and parted his garments, casting lots; that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet. They parted my garments among them, and upon my vesture did they cast lots.

Prophecy: Mal. 3:1, Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall

prepare the way before me; and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in; behold, he shall come, saith the Lord of hosts.

Fulfillment: Mark 1:2, 3, As it is written in the prophets, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face which shall prepare thy way before thee. The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.

Prophecy: Isa. 29:13, Wherefore the Lord said, Forasmuch as this people draw near me with their mouth, and with their lips do honour me, but have removed their heart far from me, and their fear toward me is taught by the precept of men.

Fulfillment: Mark 7:6, 7, He answered and said unto them, Well hath Esaias prophesied of you hypocrites, as it is written, This people honoureth me with their lips, but their heart is far from me. Howbeit in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.

Prophecy: Zech. 9:9, Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem; behold thy King cometh unto thee; he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass.

Fulfillment: Mark 11:7, And they brought the colt to Jesus, and cast their garments on him; and he sat upon him.

Prophecy: Jer. 7:11, Is this house, which is called by my name, become a den of robbers in your eyes? Behold, even I have seen it, saith the Lord.

Fulfillment: Mark 11:17, And he taught, saying unto them, Is it not written, My house shall be called of all nations the house of prayer? but ye have made it a den of thieves.

Prophecy: Psalms 118:22, 23, The stone which the builders refused is become the head stone of the corner. This is the Lord's doing; it is marvellous in our eyes.

Fulfillment: Mark 12:10, 11, And have ye not read this scripture; The stone which the builders rejected is become the head of the corner; This was the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes?

Prophecy: Zech. 13:7, Awake, O sword, against my shepherd, and against the man that is my fellow, saith the Lord of hosts; smite the shepherd, and the sheep shall be scattered; and I will turn mine hand upon the little ones.

Fulfillment: Mark 14:27, And Jesus saith unto them, All ye shall be offended because of me this night; for it is written, I will smite the shepherd, and the sheep shall be scattered.

Prophecy: Isa. 53:12, Therefore will I divide him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he hath

poured out his soul unto death; and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sins of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

Fulfillment: Mark 15:28, And the scripture was fulfilled, which saith, And he was numbered with the transgressors.

- Brother W. E. Bashor
867 Lorna Dr., Glen Ellen, CA 95442

NEWS ITEMS

ENGLEWOOD, OHIO

The Lord willing, the Englewood Dunkard Brethren Church is looking forward to a Revival Meeting, beginning July 20. Brother Jack Snyder of Lititz, Pennsylvania, will be the speaker. We will have our Harvest Meeting in the afternoon on July 20, at 2:00 p.m. We would like for all who can to come and enjoy these meetings with us.

Let us remember our Brother at the throne of grace and pray that much good might be done.

May we make good use of our time while it is afforded unto us because the days are evil.

- Sister Della Klepinger, Cor.



SAVAGE RIVER, MARYLAND

The Broadwater Chapel Congregation is looking forward to Revival Meetings, starting July 26 to August 3. Brother John Pepper of Carlisle, Pennsylvania, will be the evangelist.

Lovefeast and Communion will be on Saturday, August 2, with services beginning at 2:30 p.m.

All are invited to attend these meetings. Pray and come.

- Sister Bertha R. Dorsey, Cor.



NOTE OF THANKS

We wish to acknowledge the cards, gifts, and the expressions of sympathy received during the illness and death of my husband, Robert T. R. Bittering.

- Sister Myrtle Bittering and Family

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR JULY

July 6 - Conduct and Self-control. I Cor. 6:1-20

July 13 - Concerning Marriage. I Cor. 7:1-17

July 20 - Freedom in Christ. I Cor. 7:18-40

July 27 - Concern for the Weak in Christ. I Cor. 8:1-13

QUESTIONS:

(1) Is it right for brethren to go to law one with the other? I Cor. 6:7

(2) What should the Christian who has married an unbeliever try to do?
I Cor. 7:16

(3) What did Paul mean by "the present distress" in I Cor. 7:26?

(4) What would be wrong in eating meat offered to idols although you did not believe in idols? What would be wrong in going into a liquor saloon if you did not drink? I Cor. 8:9, 10, 11

NEWS ITEM

DALLAS CENTER, IOWA

The Dunkard Brethren Church, Dallas Center, Iowa, plans to engage in Revival Meetings from July 13 through July 27. Elder Edward Johnson, Wauseon, Ohio, is to be the speaker.

The meetings will close with all day services on July 26 and 27. The Lovefeast will be at 7:30, the evening of July 26.

All are invited to attend these meetings with us. If you cannot be with us in person, please remember us in thought and prayer.

- Sister Juanita Reed, Cor.



MEASURING RODS - At the close of life the question will be not, how much have you got, but how much have you given; not how much you have won, but how much have you done; not how much you have saved, but how much have you sacrificed; how much have you loved and served, not how much were you honored. - Nathan C. Schaeffer

DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR JULY

Memory Verse, Psa. 126:6

He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.

Tues. 1 - Psa. 121:1-8

Wed. 2 - Psa. 126:1-6

Thurs. 3 - Prov. 1:1-33

Fri. 4 - Prov. 2:1-22

Sat. 5 - Prov. 3:1-35

Memory Verse, Prov. 11:27

He that diligently seeketh good procureth favour; but he that seeketh mischief, it shall come unto him.

Sun. 6 - Prov. 6:1-35

Mon. 7 - Prov. 10:1-32

Tues. 8 - Prov. 11:1-31

Wed. 9 - Prov. 12:1-28

Thurs. 10 - Prov. 13:1-25

Fri. 11 - Prov. 18:1-24

Sat. 12 - Prov. 22:1-29

Memory Verse, Isa. 1:18

Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord; though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.

Sun. 13 - Prov. 24:1-34

Mon. 14 - Prov. 25:1-28

Tues. 15 - Prov. 29:1-27

Wed. 16 - Prov. 31:1-31

Thurs. 17 - Ecc. 1:1-18

Fri. 18 - Ecc. 7:1-29

Sat. 19 - Ecc. 12:1-14

Memory Verse, Isa. 2:3

And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths; for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

Sun. 20 - Isa. 1:1-31

Mon. 21 - Isa. 2:1-22

Tues. 22 - Isa. 5:1-30

Wed. 23 - Isa. 11:1-16

Thurs. 24 - Isa. 14:1-32

Fri. 25 - Isa. 26:1-21

Sat. 26 - Isa. 27:1-13

Memory Verse, Isa. 11:1

And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

Sun. 27 - Isa. 28:1-29

Mon. 28 - Isa. 29:1-24

Tues. 29 - Isa. 35:1-10

Wed. 30 - Isa. 36:1-22

Thurs. 31 - Isa. 37:1-38

Memory Verse, Isa. 27:6

He shall cause them that come of Jacob to take root; Israel shall blossom and bud, and fill the face of the world with fruit.

Isa. 35:10

And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Paul R. Myers
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BIBLE MONITOR

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NO. 13

"For the faith once for all delivered to the saints."

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

JOURNEY BEYOND TIME

There's a land beyond the heavens,
And our friends are gathered there,
Waiting for us there forever,
With the Christ whom we all share.

And the time will soon be nearing
When our work on earth is done,
And we'll make that last, long journey
To that land beyond the sun.

Where the Son of God is waiting
Just to welcome you and me,
Where we'll find joy and gladness
When His precious face we see.

Then our worries will be over,
All our sorrows, cares, be gone,
When we meet our precious Saviour,
And we hear Him say, "Well done."

We will spend a million lifetimes
Sitting at our Saviour's feet,
Just worshipping and praising,
When He makes our life complete.

- M. F. Spence

TRUE HAPPINESS

Is it possible that it is later than we think? We are living in a scientifically enlightened age. There are many inventions about us that we use and appreciate. Great strides have been made in the field of medicine by which we are benefited. Advances have been made in the field of agriculture to such an extent that a small percentage of the population raises food for this country as well as for others. Materially, we seem to be well situated.

Spiritually speaking, however, it appears to be getting darker and darker. We hear of great evangelistic campaigns in which thousands go forward and accept Christ in the course of a year. Then why is it, in a land which was once called Christian, crime increases by leaps and bounds? Why is it our churches are not filled as they once were? Can it be that the light is becoming dim and the salt is losing its saltiness?

We have a work to do. At the age of twelve Jesus was found in the temple with the doctors hearing and asking questions. As His parents questioned Him, His answer was, "How is it ye sought me? Wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?"

Then what is the nature of the work we are to do? Many feel that our great responsibility is to improve social conditions. It is true we live in an affluent society, yet our affluence as a nation may be our downfall. Paul made no attempt to free the slaves. Instead, he said, "Let as many servants as are under the yoke count their own masters as worthy of all honour, that the name of God and his doctrine be not blasphemed."

THE BIBLE MONITOR

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Tim. 6:1. Neither did he attempt to reorganize society nor to interfere in politics nor even to better conditions of the working people. For that matter, neither did Jesus. But Paul did make many happy by bringing them to Jesus.

Many people labor under a mistaken impression of what true happiness consists. Some feel that higher wages would bring happiness. Others feel that more leisure time would contribute to greater happiness. Still others believe that prestige is a necessary ingredient of happiness. Some of the most unhappy people are the rich. If life is given to the accumulation of wealth, it is difficult for one to give up seeking more wealth. But with more riches come more troubles and more problems.

On the other hand, some of the happiest people the world has known have been those in slavery, those in prison, those in poverty. There have been many who have been persecuted. Paul and Silas, after beaten and with their feet fast in stocks, prayed and sang praises unto God. Could we do that? Many have been martyred who have gone to their death with a prayer in their heart and praise on their lips.

If this life was the only life, then we might have reason to use all of life in trying to improve external conditions. But it isn't. Compared to eternity, this life is of little importance. It is but an opportunity for us to prepare for that which is to come.

Jesus said, "Ye have the poor always with you; but me ye have not always." There are many contributing factors as to the reason for people being poor. Misfortune many times comes upon people. Perhaps there is no work or possibly the wages are poor. Unfortunately drink, waste, mismanagement and extravagance also contribute. "For the poor shall never cease out of the land; therefore I command thee, saying, Thou shalt open thine hand wide unto thy brother, to thy poor, and to thy needy, in the land." Deut. 15:11.

Our task, our work, is to glorify our Creator. We have been placed here for a purpose. Jesus knew at an early age the purpose for which He came into the world. Our task is not to meddle in Caesar's realm but to hold forth the Word of God by precept and example to lost and dying men. In the doing of this we, as well as they, may have true happiness.



Calvary is the proof that sin has troubled God; has it troubled you?



The secret of contentment is knowing how to enjoy what you have, and to be able to lose all desire for things beyond your reach.

JOSEPH THE DREAMER

Joseph lived with his father, Jacob, and his brethren in Hebron. He was the great-grandson of Abraham.

Jacob loved Joseph more than all his sons, and made him a coat of many colors.

Joseph dreamed dreams and the dreams are the basis of the whole life and story of Joseph and his brethren.

Joseph dreamed they were binding sheaves and his sheaf stood up in the midst, and his brethren's sheaves bowed down to his sheaf. Because of this his brethren became angry toward him.

Joseph dreamed another dream in which the sun and moon and eleven stars made obeisance to him. He told it to his father and his brethren and his father said, "Shall I and your mother and your brethren bow down to you?" Therefore his brethren envied him the more.

The brethren of Joseph went to feed their father's flock in Shechem. Jacob asked Joseph to go see if all was well with his brethren and the flock. When his brethren saw him coming they said among themselves that this dreamer cometh, let us kill him and see what becomes of his dreams.

Reuben took some responsibility for Joseph. He wanted to release him to go back to his father but the other brethren sold him to some merchant men that were going through and he was taken to Egypt, where the dreams would come true. There, Joseph was sold to Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh.

Wherever Joseph went he was found to be very manly and found grace in the eyes of his master and all that he did prospered. He was a goodly person and well favored.

While in Potiphar's house Joseph was tempted by Potiphar's wife but Joseph fled, leaving his garment which was evidence that he was there. Potiphar believed his wife rather than Joseph so he was put in prison although he was innocent of the crime she charged him with.

There were two other prisoners in prison who were servants of Pharaoh. They each had a dream which Joseph interpreted. One was restored to his former duty as butler while the other was killed. Joseph asked the one who was restored to his former position to "think on me when it shall be well with thee."

In progress of time Pharaoh had several dreams which his wise men could not interpret. Pharaoh called for Joseph and told him of his dreams. Joseph being very modest and reverent told Pharaoh that it was not in him to interpret, but God will give Pharaoh an answer of peace.

Soon Joseph's dreams will be falling into place. The dreams of Pharaoh were seven years of plenty and seven years of famine.

The Apostle Paul writes in Rom. 8:28, "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to his purpose."

By now Joseph was placed in a high position as governor over all the land of Egypt by Pharaoh.

There being a sore famine in the land of Canaan, Jacob heard there was food in Egypt and Jacob told his sons to go to Egypt to buy food. Now Joseph's dreams are becoming more real. His brethren came and in great humility did just as his dreams showed him, for his brethren bowed down their faces to the ground. Joseph knew his brethren but they did not know him for he spoke to them through an interpreter and spoke very roughly by calling them spies. They answered that we are not spies but we are all one man's sons. Thy servants are twelve brethren, the youngest is with our father, but the other is not.

Joseph said to his brethren that ye cannot go home to your father except your younger brother come. In the meantime the ten brethren were put in prison for three days. By the tenor of the Scriptures, they did some serious thinking and they said that we are guilty concerning our brother. But Reuben said, "Spake I not unto you, saying, Do not sin against the child; and ye would not hear? therefore, behold, also his blood is required." Joseph spoke through an interpreter but he could not hold in any longer. He turned and wept.

On their way to Canaan there were other things that caused them anguish and remorse. They found their money in the top of their sacks and beside this they were to take with them their younger brother or they could have no food. This he did to prove their innocence.

Joseph, being very old, was near his wits-end when he heard the story of the ten brethren. He said that Joseph is not, and Simeon is not, and if Benjamin go down it will be the end of him and that will bring me down to the grave in sorrow.

The famine became very sore in the land of Canaan. Jacob told his sons to go again to Egypt for food but his sons said that the man solemnly said you shall not see my face except your younger brother be with you.

Jacob gave in but he would not let them go without sending a present of the best fruits of the land and also take double money along in their sacks.

When Joseph saw the arrival of the eleven brethren in Egypt he made a great feast and placed them at the table according to their ages. Joseph inquired about their father, is he alive and in good health? Again they bowed down their heads in obeisance to him.

Joseph could not refrain himself. He told all to go out while he made himself known to his brethren. He said, "I am Joseph; doth my father yet

live?" They were greatly troubled, and again he said unto his brethren, "I am Joseph your brother, whom ye sold into Egypt. Now therefore be not grieved, nor angry with yourselves, that ye sold me hither; for God did send me before you to preserve life." Two years of famine are past and behold, there are five years more.

Joseph made ready the necessary provisions for his brethren to go to the land of Canaan for their father, and all their families, their flocks and herds.

The great and wonderful news was broken to Jacob that Joseph is still alive and is governor over all the land of Egypt. Jacob's heart fainted for the news was too great, but when he saw the wagons and all that Joseph had sent his spirit revived and he said it is enough. Joseph is still alive and I will go and see him before I die.

- Brother Clarence R. Gehr
Dallas Center, Iowa

JESUS

Leaving the judgment seat was a man in whom they could find no fault, yet condemned to die. The man was Christ Jesus bearing His own cross, the very cross on which He was to hang. It must have been a heavy cross, more than our Saviour was able to drag up to Mount Calvary.

"And as they led him away, they laid hold upon one Simon, a Cyrenian, coming out of the country, and on him they laid the cross, that he might bear it after Jesus." It must have been a sad trip. "And there followed him a great company of people, and of women, which also bewailed and lamented him. But Jesus turning unto them said, Daughters of Jerusalem, weep not for me, but weep for yourselves, and for your children." Luke 23:26-28.

They lamented because of Him, for they knew He was in pain and tired. Even though the thorns pained our Saviour and His body hurt from the treatment He had already had, yet He told them not to weep for Him, but for themselves. He knew the days were coming when they would suffer much because of Him. Some because they had rejected Him, some because they said let His blood be upon us and our children, others for His name's sake.

Now they came to Golgotha's hill, the place which is called Calvary;

here Jesus and two other malefactors were led to be put to death. They took the cross and laid it on the ground, then no doubt very roughly cast our Saviour to the ground, stretching His body upon it. Surely His face must have been twitching because of pain as they drove those spikes through His precious hands, the hands that already had done so much for them. The beautiful feet with blood now dripping out around the spikes. The feet that had traveled so many miles to heal the sick, to make the lame to walk, to make the blind to see, and to make the lepers whole. After being nailed to the cross no doubt it was raised up. Maybe dropped into a hole with an awful jerk to His wounds, all this for us. Yet without a word.

"Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows; yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth." Isa. 53:4-7.

Any wonder those that followed were weeping. Where are your tears? Could you have been present with dry eyes? But listen!

He from the middle cross speaks, "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do." Luke 23:34. They that passed by reviled him saying, "If thou be the Son of God, come down from the cross." Matt. 27:40. The chief priests mocking Him said, "He saved others; himself he cannot save." Mark 15:31. The soldiers also mocked him saying "If thou be the king of the Jews, save thyself." Luke 23:37. Even one of the malefactors railed on him saying, "If thou be Christ, save thyself and us." Luke 23:39. But the other malefactor said, "Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom." Luke 23:42. To him Jesus answered; "Verily I say unto thee, Today shalt thou be with me in paradise." Luke 23:43.

Looking down from the cross, Jesus saw His mother. "When Jesus therefore saw his mother, and the disciple standing by, whom he loved, he saith unto his mother, Woman, behold thy son! Then saith he to the disciple, Behold thy mother! And from that hour that disciple took her unto his own home." John 19:26-27.

Then with a loud voice Jesus cried, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" Matt. 27:46. By this time Jesus had been on the cross for about six hours, and the pain must have been awful for He said, "I thirst." Then after giving Him vinegar to drink He said, "It is finished." In Luke we read, "And when Jesus had cried with a loud voice, he said,

Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit; and having said thus, he gave up the ghost."

The suffering was over. He was dead. Then one of the soldiers took a spear and pierced His side, "and forthwith came there out blood and water." He shed His precious blood for our sins - your sins and mine. It had to be, for without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sins. If they who were standing by and saw the blood running from His side could have understood, their weeping because of sorrow would have been turned into tears of joy. But instead they saw Him dead.

We take notice of two men who must have been close by. The one, "Joseph of Arimathaea, being a disciple of Jesus, but secretly for fear of the Jews, besought Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus; and Pilate gave him leave. He came therefore, and took the body of Jesus." Cruel hands put Jesus on the cross, but we believe He was taken down with careful hands.

The other, Nicodemus, who first came to Jesus by night, brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes. The two men took the body of Jesus and prepared it for burial, and placed it in a new sepulchre, wherein was never man yet laid. After rolling a great stone to the door of the sepulchre they departed.

In Matt. 27:61 we read, "And there was Mary Magdalene, and the other Mary, sitting over against the sepulchre." No doubt they were still weeping. They had stayed with Him until the end.

We, too, are following Jesus. Will we stay with Him until the end or give up?

- Brother H. Edward Johnson

ANSWERED PRAYERS

Part 17

In Acts 20:17-38 we have a very touching, tear-shedding lesson. It concerns the Apostle Paul as he nears the close of his life. He was a Christ-chosen vessel unto the Gentiles.

He was very sincere in his effort for the Lord. He denied himself to uphold the Christian cause. He was imprisoned, he was beaten, shipwrecked, and endured countless hardships in his ardent effort to lead men to Christ. But he counted it all joy.

Paul had a strong interest in getting to Jerusalem for Pentecost. Traveling by ship, he arrived at the city of Miletus, sometimes called Miletum. II Tim. 4:20. It was a coastal city, thirty-six miles south of Ephesus. In the early days, Miletus was the most flourishing city of the

Ionian Greeks. All that remains of Miletus now is a small Turkish village named Melas.

Paul had a very heart-rendering problem. He wanted to go to Jerusalem very much, yet he was warned not to go there. In verse 23 he states that in every city the Holy Spirit witnessed that bonds and afflictions await him.

The Apostle Paul having been forewarned could not dismiss his urge to proceed to the Holy City. He sought the comfort and guidance of others. While at Miletus, he sent to Ephesus and called the elders of the Church to come to Miletus.

In all seriousness, if we have a vexing problem, and especially a spiritual one, who better could we call for than the elders of the Church. I have had to repeatedly seek council from the elders many times. The Bible states, "In the multitude of counsellors there is safety."

I believe Paul was well aware of this Scripture. He sent for the elders and verse 18 tells us they came. Then Paul poured out his heart to them.

He was not boasting, but he was bringing to mind his work and experiences that were his in spreading the Gospel. He reminded them of his serving the Lord with humility and of the tears that he shed as he testified to both Jews and Greeks.

Now he was going bound to Jerusalem, not knowing what all would befall him when he arrived there. That was not his great concern. His chief concern was that he might finish his course with joy and that he might make full proof of his ministry.

How concerned each minister should be that he might finish his life's work with joy and make full proof of his ministry!

Paul admonished the elders present at Miletus and it includes all elders today to feed the Church of God. Temporarily, he was forgetting his personal problems and showing much concern for the future Church. Church interests should always precede personal interests.

Paul related to the elders that after his departure grievous wolves would enter in among them, not sparing the flock. He even warned them that some of their own number would teach perverse things and take disciples with them. This bothered him much. Also, the fact that his departure would simply mean they would meet no more. Verse 25.

In the last part of this chapter the Apostle Paul further related his work for the Lord. After Paul poured out his heart and personal feelings to his co-workers, they held a prayer meeting. Paul knelt down and prayed with them all. What a prayer meeting that must have been! I would have liked to be there. There were many tears shed. The Word says, "they all wept sore." There was not a dry eye. "Wept sore" means the elders had pain, tender feeling and compassion for Paul. Not only did they pray and weep. They hugged and kissed the Apostle Paul. How they must have loved him.

And what touched them the most were the words, "that they should see his face no more." They were bidding goodbye to a true soldier of the Cross. It is my thinking that the Apostle Paul helped to ordain many of these elders. They were close to him and he was close to them. And now the separation!

I have always believed that brethren and sisters who actually pray for one another as this prayer meeting indicated will never speak ill of one another. It would be pretty hard to hold an ill will against a brother if you actually earnestly and honestly prayed for his well being.

After the prayer meeting, they accompanied Paul to the ship. They had answered Paul's summons to come to Miletus. They heard his testimony. They have done what they could. They prayed to God with and for him.

Did God hear? Did God answer? I am sure God heard and God answered. I believe when the elders left Paul they had a sense of feeling that they had helped and comforted him. I believe when Paul boarded that ship he had a peace that man could not give, neither take away.

If you follow Paul in the next several chapters of the book of Acts you will find he was brought before the council, he was sent to Felix, he was accused by Tertullus, he was accused before Festus, before Agrippa, then he appealed unto Caesar. This took courage and faith to make his defense before all these different officials. Where did Paul receive this strength and courage? Surely, it was from answered prayers offered in his behalf by the elders from Ephesus.

I do not think after the elders returned to Ephesus that they forgot Paul. I believe they continued to hold him up to the throne of grace. Here is an example. If we know of an individual who needs our prayers, may we not only pray once for them, but continue to pray for them until they have received the help they need.

While we can meditate and even write on the subject of answered prayers, our human minds can never attempt to fathom the power there is in prayer. God's answer to prayer is oftentimes the only answer to be had to the problem involved.

May we put more faith in our prayers. May we truly believe that God does answer prayers.

- Brother Paul R. Myers
Box 117, Greentown, Ohio 44630



Whenever a man is ready to uncover his sins, God is always ready to cover them.

ACCENT THE POSITIVE!

"In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." 1 Thess. 5:18. It is easy to give thanks when all is going well, and it is easy to complain when problems come, but it is God's will that we thank Him always. "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to his purpose." Rom. 8:28. We may not like the problem or trial, but we can give thanks for the good that will come from the experience. This is the positive approach.

Christianity is a positive religion, full of God-pleasing activity. It is not a do-nothing religion. It is motivated by love, not fear. God is love, and we worship Him because He first loved us, but idol gods are worshipped in a spirit of fear. God is pleased when we refrain from sinful activities, but that is not enough. He expects us to take up worthwhile activities, and if we don't, we are still in sin. "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin." James 4:17.

From beginning to end, our Christian walk is a positive one. The beginning step is coming to Christ. The next step is working for Him. God has told us many things we shouldn't do, but He has also told us many things we should do. When we are obedient, He will bless us, and we can be assured of His care. This is the positive side. If we focus our attention on the negative side - the trials, the times when everything goes wrong, the scoffing of those about us - we lose the joy of living for Him.

When we are busy doing what we should do, there won't be any time left to do what we should not do. When you love, you cannot hate. When you are honest, you cannot bear false witness, or lie to cover up your own or another's mistakes. When you value life, you will be careful to preserve it in yourself and others. You won't use your car as a weapon of destruction, any more than you would kill with a gun. When you live in peace, you won't be causing trouble among Christians, any more than you would engage in a fist-fight with an ill-tempered, ungodly neighbor.

It is well to refrain from stealing, killing, lying, etc., but that is not sufficient. Even the good moral person does that. The victory is not in the "shall nots (what we avoid), but in the "shalls" (what we do), as expressions of our faith. "For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world; and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith." 1 John 5:4. Your faith makes a victorious life possible. It will enable you to thank God in all things. It will enable you to pray for those who

despitefully use you. You will be able to forgive those who trespass against you, even if they don't seek forgiveness. Your "shield of faith" will enable you to resist the Devil, while actively pleasing God. "Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone." James 2:17.

God's word accents the positive approach in all areas of life. There are commands to action, followed by a promise of a blessing for obedience. Many are "present tense" promises, for now! We are to put God and His will first, then the blessings will follow. "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." Matt. 6:33. Doing God's will makes possible a close relationship with Him. "Whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother." Matt. 12:50.

"Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven. But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven." Matt. 10:32, 33. The first experienced complete victory; the second experienced complete rejection. To the disobedient (those who deny Christ) the outlook is positive and sure, but not in a blessed sense. They may enjoy many blessings - God rains on the just and unjust - but when eternity comes, they shall be punished. This is not maybe, or possibly, but "these shall go away into everlasting punishment." Matt. 25:46. "Him that cometh unto me, I will in no wise cast out" is a positive promise to a sinner who seeks to get right with God. In this way only can his outlook be changed from positive punishment and rejection to positive acceptance and blessing.

"Positive" carries the thought of reality; "negative" means a no or denial of the real. Christianity is real, and we show how real it is by the deeds we do, the joy we have in our hearts, the love we have even for our enemies (this is abundant love). Merely saying no to sin and stopping there denies the reality of God's power to enable us to live for Him. In photography the negative is made first but it's not very appealing. The true beauty is in the positive, the printed picture. Likewise, the Christian's true spiritual beauty comes out in the positive development of Christ in us. Focus your attention on the positive and blessed side of Christian living, and you will experience a joyous, victorious life in Christ. It really pays to "accent the positive."

- Sister Eileen Broadwater



Life with Christ is an endless hope; without Him it is an hopeless end.

IF JESUS CAME TO YOUR HOUSE

If Jesus came to your house to spend a day or two -
If He came unexpectedly, I wonder what you'd do.
Oh, I know you'd give your nicest room to such an honored Guest,
And all the food you'd serve to Him would be the very best,
And you would keep assuring Him you're glad to have Him there -
That serving Him in your home is joy beyond compare.

But - when you saw Him coming, would you meet Him at the door
With arms outstretched in welcome to your heavenly Visitor?
Or would you have to change your clothes before you let Him in?
Or hide some magazines and put the Bible where they'd been?
Would you turn off the radio and hope He hadn't heard?
And wish you hadn't uttered that last, loud, hasty word?

Would you hide your worldly music and put some hymn books out?
Could you let Jesus walk right in, or would you rush about?
And I wonder - if the Saviour spent a day or two with you,
Would you go right on doing the things you always do?
Would you go right on saying the things you always say?
Would life for you continue as it does from day to day?

Would your family conversation keep up its usual pace?
And would you find it hard each meal to say a table grace?
Would you sing the songs you always sing, and read the books you read,
And let Him know the things on which your mind and spirit feed?
Would you take Jesus with you everywhere you'd planned to go?
Or would you, maybe, change your plans for just a day or so?

Would you be glad to have Him meet your very closest friends?
Or would you hope they would stay away until His visit ends?
Would you be glad to have Him stay forever on and on?
Or would you sigh with great relief when He at last was gone?
It might be interesting to know the things that you would do
If Jesus Christ in person came to spend some time with you.

- Selected

What would you do if Jesus came to your house to spend some time with you? This poem carries a lot of meaning with it. Surely it behooves us to be on guard and yet be not idle. "She looketh well to the ways of

her household, and eateth not the bread of idleness." Proverbs 31:27.

Let us have our homes garnished, waiting for our Lord's return. "Then he saith, I will return into my house from whence I came out; and when he is come, he findeth it empty, swept, and garnished.

- Sister Shirley Frick
R. 1, New Madison, Ohio 45346

THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

MOSES KILLS AN EGYPTIAN

Exodus 2:11-22

Moses grew up in Egypt and was educated in all the ways of the Egyptians. He had the best of everything and was a prince of Pharaoh. He was trained to be a warrior and had the finest of clothes, houses, chariots, and food. He had servants to wait on him and could go and come as he wished.

God was watching and had plans for Moses. From the time he was born God knew that he would be a leader of his people, the Hebrews. Somehow Moses knew that he was a Hebrew. I suppose his real mother had kept in touch with him and taught him about the God of Israel. The Egyptians were cruel to the Hebrews and worked them hard. They made them build great monuments and temples, till the ground, and raise food, and they treated them worse and worse as time went on.

Moses was forty years old and one day he went out to see how his people, the Hebrews, were doing. As he watched them working hard for the Egyptian taskmasters, he noticed an Egyptian whipping a Hebrew. Moses felt sorry for his people and when he saw one of them being mistreated it angered him. Looking to see that no one was near, he went up to the Egyptian and killed him and hid his body in the sand. Although Moses was a prince of Egypt, he was also a Hebrew. For a Hebrew to kill an Egyptian meant only death. The next day Moses again went out where the Hebrews were working and saw two of them fighting together and said to the one who started it, "Why do you fight among yourselves? Don't you know you are brethren?"

And the Hebrew answered Moses, "Who made you a prince and a judge over us? Do you intend to kill me as you killed the Egyptian?"

Then Moses was afraid and said, "Surely this thing is known." Finally word got out around to Pharaoh and he tried to find Moses to kill him.

But Moses fled from Pharaoh and went to the land of Midian, about two hundred miles from Egypt.

Although Moses was raised to be an Egyptian, with all the riches of Egypt at his feet, he didn't forget his people. God had a plan for Moses and when Moses was eighty years old he led the Hebrews out of Egypt and away from slavery. God has a plan for you too. If you will give yourself to Him, He will show you the right way.

- Brother Rudy Cover

NEWS ITEM

ANTIOCH, WEST VIRGINIA

Revival meetings at the Ridge Congregation will begin July 6, and continue through July 13, 1975. The Lord willing, Elder Paul Reed will be the evangelist. Lovefeast will be on Saturday 12. You are invited to these services.

- Sister Irene Harris, Cor.



THANK YOU

My sincere thanks to all who remembered me with prayers, cards, letters, and gifts during my stay at the Methodist Hospital in Rochester, Minnesota. May the Lord reward you for your thoughtfulness.

- Sister Becky Miller
Quinter, Kansas



INEXHAUSTIBLE - Some one describes packing his bag for a journey. Just before closing it, he observes a small corner not yet filled. He says, "Into this little corner I put a guide-book, a lamp, a mirror, a microscope, a telescope, a volume of choice poems, several well written biographies, a package of old letters, a book of songs, a sharp sword, and a small library of more than sixty volumes; yet, strange enough to say, all these did not occupy a space of more than three inches long by two inches wide." "But how could you do it?" "Well, it was all in the packing, I put in my Bible."

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Paul R. Myers
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"For the faith once for all delivered to the saints."

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

NOTHING STANDS BETWEEN

I know not where God's hand may lead along the path of days;
I know not if my heart must bleed, or thrill with hymns of praise;
But in this confidence I go to tread the way unseen;
His Spirit guides me, this I know--and nothing stands between!

I know not if this morning's sun shall set for me at eve,
And if, with many tasks undone, I shall this earth-house leave
To walk a path unknown and new beyond the earthly scene;
But where I go, my Lord goes too--and nothing stands between!

The Father's plan I do not know; His ways are hidden now
To tear-blind eyes and mind so slow; yet I believe somehow
That in a bright tomorrow's sun all will be plainly seen;
So shall I trust till life is done, for nothing stands between!

I view the near horizon's rim; I cannot see afar.
My heart is faint; my eyes are dim to glimpse Faith's flickering star.
Yet just above the shadows drear I know it shines serene,
To show that God is very near--and nothing stands between!

- Kathryn Blackburn Peck

FAREWELL

The appearance of this issue of the Bible Monitor marks the close of six years of service that the writer of these lines has rendered to the church in the capacity as editor. We have been responsible for the editorial in each issue of the Monitor as well as the various other duties that go with issuing a church paper.

These labors and the strain of our great responsibility has had a telling effect upon us and we feel we must have relief. Due to this, we have asked General Conference at Santa Cruz, California, to make plans for a new editor, which they have kindly consented to.

Few people realize what a great strain it is upon one to hold a position of great responsibility in the church such as this. The work of editing a church paper is of such importance that one should be able to devote much of his time to it. One should be so situated that he could spend much time in reading, study, and prayerful meditation. With the writer this has not been possible.

Brother Milton Cook of Anaheim, California, has been called to take over our duties and serve in this capacity. In behalf of him as he takes up this work we call your attention to a few matters of importance. Some folks take the attitude that when the church places a certain work upon a brother that they are then free of any responsibility. We think this is the wrong attitude. Having placed a work upon a brother we believe it is the duty of those who have given him this work to support him in every way possible and supply his needs as he endeavors to carry out his duties.

THE BIBLE MONITOR**JULY 15, 1975**

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In order to carry on the work of the Monitor he will need a regular and continuous supply of manuscript for printing. It is a large job to edit and supervise the Bible Monitor without searching for sufficient material. He will also need your sympathies and prayers.

As we face the future we cannot but entertain grave apprehensions. Not that we fear the Lord will forsake His people, but that many may be deceived in these sinful and latter days. "For there shall arise false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect." Matt. 24:24.

We believe there are many signs about us that herald Christ's imminent return. There are signs in the political world. Luke 21:25-27 speaks of distress and perplexity of nations. It is obvious the rulers are trying various approaches to the problems at hand. The Scriptures speak of the sea and the waves roaring which we feel are representative of the unrest of peoples of the world. Need we point out that men's hearts are literally failing them for fear?

A spirit of war seems to prevail. It seems that one war is no more than ended until another starts. Winston Churchill said, "We seem to be moving, drifting steadily against our will toward some hideous catastrophe. Everybody wants to stop it, but do not know how." This century is one of international wars -- nations rising against nations.

At the same time that such unrest is taking place there are great efforts for peace. Still there is no peace. We hear a great cry for peace and safety which seems to be a further fulfillment of the Word in I Thess. 5:3, "For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape."

The Apostle Paul also tells us of prevailing conditions of the last days. "This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away. II Tim. 3:1-5.

There are many who have a form of godliness but deny the power thereof. Paul says in II Tim. 4:3, "For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables."

Perhaps it is even later than we think. Dear Reader, this old world is headed for the judgment of God. The Bible says, "Evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived."

A little girl was walking past a cathedral as the clock struck the hour. But instead of stopping when it should, it kept on striking - 12, 13, 14, 15, etc. She ran home alarmed saying, "Mommy, its later than it has ever been before!"

It is later than it has ever been before. May God help us to read, study, believe, and accept Christ if we have not done so, that we may find grace in the eyes of the Lord.

In view of these truths we urge you in our closing message to save yourselves from this untoward generation by clinging to the inspired Word of God unto the coming of the Lord.

In closing our work as editor we feel to express our appreciation to all of our contributors, subscribers and readers for their help, and the prayers that have been offered in our behalf. We must confess our efforts have been feeble at best, and wherein we have failed we ask an humble pardon of all concerned.

May we unite our prayers in behalf of one another and the church until we meet again. With this we bid you farewell.

In Christian Love,
Walter W. Bird



ATTENTION

Plans have now been made for Brother Milton Cook, Apt. 3, 1309 W. Lynne Ave., Anaheim, California 92802, to assume the responsibilities of editing the Monitor, beginning with the August 1 issue. Beginning now, send all renewals, manuscript for printing and correspondence pertaining to the work of the Monitor to him.

ANSWERED PRAYERS

Part 18

Prayer is one of the many blessings that God bestows on a true follower of Christ. Prayer is not to be considered lightly in our Christian life. Prayer is highly essential in living a life acceptable to Almighty God.

Sincere praying is talking to God in earnest. Too often we turn to prayer after we have turned to about every other source from which we might receive help.

Few of us pray enough. God wants us to pray to Him; He asks us to. Wonderful changes have taken place in times past and gone through God hearing and answering prayers. We have the same God today and He does hear and answer our prayers.

One beautiful example of answered prayer is found in I Kings, chapters 12 and 13.

Jeroboam was the son of an Ephraimite of the name of Nebat. He was the first king of the divided Kingdom of Israel. He reigned from B.C. 975-954.

On one occasion he was leaving Jerusalem when he was met by Ahijah, the prophet. Ahijah assured Jeroboam that if he was obedient to God that God would establish for him a kingdom and dynasty equal to that of David. I Kings 11:29-40.

Solomon did not favor this arrangement. To get away from Solomon, Jeroboam fled to Egypt. He remained there perhaps a year following the death of Solomon.

While in Egypt, Jeroboam married Ano, the elder sister of the Egyptian Queen. After sometime he left Egypt and became ruler of the Northern Kingdom.

Fearing the yearly pilgrimages to Jerusalem would undo all that he felt he had accomplished he caused a break in the religious unity of the nation.

He caused two golden figures of Mnevis, the sacred calf, to be made and set up at the two extremities of his kingdom, one at Dan and the other at Bethel.

It was while dedicating the altar at Bethel that a prophet from Judah appeared. He denounced the altar and foretold its desecration and violent overthrow.

Jeroboam stretched out his hand to arrest the prophet. In doing so, it became withered and paralyzed. It was so crippled that he could not bring his hand back to his side.

Jeroboam realized he had made a grave mistake. He realized this man was a man of God. He realized this man of God had power. Jeroboam asked the man of God to pray for him, that his hand might be restored.

The man of God prayed. God heard this prayer; God answered this prayer. I Kings 13:6, "And the man of God besought the Lord, and the king's hand was restored him again, and became as it was before."

Here is another example of God answering one person's prayers offered in behalf of another. How beautiful!

- Brother Paul R. Myers,
Box 117, Greentown, Ohio 44630



When God measures men He puts the tape around the heart, not the head.

PROPHECY AND FULFILLMENT

In Luke 1:67-71, Zacharias says all the prophets prophesied of Christ.

And his father Zacharias was filled with the Holy Ghost, and prophesied, saying, Blessed be the Lord God of Israel; for he hath visited and redeemed his people, And hath raised up an horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David; As he spake by the mouth of his holy prophets, which have been since the world began; That we should be saved from our enemies, and from the hand of all that hate us.

Prophecy: Exod. 13:2, Sanctify unto me all the firstborn, whatsoever openeth the womb among the children of Israel, both of man and of beast; it is mine.

Fulfillment: Luke 2:23, (As it is written in the law of the Lord, Every male that openeth the womb shall be called holy to the Lord.)

Prophecy: Zech. 8:20-22, Thus saith the Lord of hosts; It shall yet come to pass, that there shall come people, and the inhabitants of many cities; And the inhabitants of one city shall go to another, saying, Let us go speedily to pray before the Lord, and to seek the Lord of hosts; I will go also. Yea, many people and strong nations shall come to seek the Lord of hosts in Jerusalem, and to pray before the Lord.

Fulfillment: Luke 2:31, 32, Which thou hast prepared before the face of all people; A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel.

Prophecy: Isa. 40:3-5, The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low; and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain. And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together; for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

Fulfillment: Luke 3:4-6, As it is written in the book of the words of Esaias the prophet, saying, The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be brought low; and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways shall be made smooth; And all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

Prophecy: Isa. 61:1, 2, The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me; because the Lord hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound; To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn. Read entire chapter.

Prophecy: Isa. 62:1, 2, For Zion's sake will I not hold my peace, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until the righteousness thereof go

forth as brightness, and the salvation thereof as a lamp that burneth. And the Gentiles shall see thy righteousness, and all kings thy glory; and thou shalt be called by a new name, which the mouth of the Lord shall name.

Fulfillment: Luke 4:17-19, And when he had opened the book, he found the place where it was written, The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.

Prophecy: Isa. 40:3-5, The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low; and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain; And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together; for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

Fulfillment: Luke 7:27; This is he, of whom it is written, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee.

Prophecy: Psalm 118:22, The stone which the builders refused is become the head stone of the corner.

Fulfillment: Luke 20:17, 18, And he beheld them, and said, What is this then that is written. The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner? Whosoever shall fall upon that stone shall be broken, but on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder.

Prophecy: Isa. 53:12, therefore will I divide him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he hath poured out his soul unto death; and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sins of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

Fulfillment: Luke 22:37, For I say unto you, that this that is written must yet be accomplished in me, And he was reckoned among the transgressors; for the things concerning me have an end.

Isaiah 53 tells of the sufferings of Christ.

Prophecy: Micah 4:2, And he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths; for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

Fulfillment: Luke 24:46, 47, And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day; And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

THE WORLD'S BIBLE

We are the only Bible
The careless world will read...
We are the sinner's gospel
We are the scoffer's creed. . .
We are the Lord's last message
Given in deed and word. . .
What if the type is crooked?
What if the print is blurred?
What if our hands are busy
With other work than His?
What if our feet are walking
Where sin's allurements is?
What if our tongues are speaking
Of things His lips would spurn?
How can we hope to help Him-
And hasten His return?

- Unknown

Selected by Sister Sylvia Parker

DAME GOSSIP

A sociable body is Dame Gossip. She pays us frequent visits, never in pursuance of her own concerns, but always forever bent upon broadcasting personals about others.

"Have you heard?" she begins confidentially, laying aside her hat and gloves; "Did you know?" she whispers, drawing her chair closer as we sit on the comfortable cool veranda; "And they do say" - she takes a parting shot in rising to bid us adieu.

At last we find ourselves alone again, but with confidence in the integrity of our fellow men well-nigh shattered. Who would ever have dreamed that Brother and Sister G. would do thus and so!

Never mind. Ten chances to one they did not. Madame Gossip prefers to believe the worst of everyone, and what is more, she enjoys telling the sordid tale with abundant variations and embellishments of her own invention. Remember this, and do not let her idle and oftentimes cruel words dim your outlook or shadow your uplook.

This is one of the most despicable of the seven deadly sins - the one which causes more heartache and sorrow and trouble than all the rest put together. When tempted to repeat something you have heard about a friend, an acquaintance, or even a stranger, see that it passes muster before these three sentries: First, "Is it true?" Second, "Is it

necessary?" Third, "Is it kind?" If not, it would better, far better, be left unsaid.

A wise man once observed that we should have an eleventh commandment, reading "Mind your own business." Really, this is not a bad suggestion, is it? Let's trim the sails of our conversation carefully, very carefully, in the days to come.

- Selected from 1969 Bible Monitor
by Sister Margaret Myers

THE MINORITY CHRISTIAN

Sometimes we, as Christ centered people, feel almost persecuted and in the minority for our stand for Christ, the Word, and the Church. Lest we forget, let's consider the following:

During the time Noah was building the ark, he was very much in the minority. . .but he won!

When Joseph was sold into Egypt by his brothers, he was in a decided minority. . .but he won!

When Gideon and his three hundred followers, with their broken pitchers and lamps, put the Midianites to flight, they were in an insignificant minority...but he won!

When Elijah prayed down fire from Heaven and put the prophets of Baal to shame, he was certainly a notable minority. . .But he won!

When David, ridiculed by his brothers, went out to meet Goliath, in size he was in a decided minority. . .but he won!

A man named Martin Luther nailed his thesis on the door of a cathedral and was certainly in a lonesome minority. . .but he won!

And when Jesus Christ was crucified by the Roman soldiers, He was a conspicuous minority. . .but He won! He overcame the grave, after dying for our sins, and is still winning today.

Win! Don't follow the agnostic crowd and be a loser. Follow Jesus!

- Brother Leonard Wertz

LAID UP IN A NAPKIN

Supposing a friend gave you a special item which you didn't own, and told you to use it until he returned. Instead of using it, you wrapped it in a clean cloth and laid it aside until he returned. How do you think your friend would feel when you returned the item unused? Wouldn't he think you didn't appreciate what he had loaned you? No doubt he would be insulted, and wouldn't give you another opportunity to use what he loaned you. So it is with a talent; you must use it while the opportunity is there. You may not have a second opportunity.

A talent is a gift committed to one's trust to use and improve; also a natural or acquired ability. The parable in Matthew 25 uses the word "talent"; Luke uses "pound" in referring to the gift committed to their trust. God gives us talents which He expects us to use. If we don't, they will be taken from us and given to another. In Luke 19:20, "Lord, behold, here is thy pound, which I have kept laid up in a napkin," was answered in verse 24 with "Take from him the pound, and give it to him that hath ten pounds." If you don't use what God gives you, it hasn't served His purpose and He will take it from you. Your opportunity to be useful in the Lord's work will be gone!

A talent is something you work with, something which will increase in value when properly used as did the talents or pounds in the parable. That which is given to us should be used as God directs; it should not be hidden or pushed aside. If you have a little ability to teach God's word, it will increase when used. Your experience will enable you to teach more effectively, and God will bless when your ability is used to please Him. A neglected talent will decrease in potential usefulness and value. A musician maintains his ability through practice; neglect will decrease it rapidly.

Jonah tried to lay up his talent in a napkin, but God had other plans. He tried to run away, but his reluctance to preach was turned into willingness by his experience in the fish's belly. He was in water with weeds wrapped around his head, still very much alive, for three days and nights before he promised, "I will pay that that I have vowed."

Saul did everything he could to hinder the cause of Christ, but God had other plans for him, too. His experience on the road to Damascus revealed to him that he was a chosen vessel to preach, not persecute. He tarried for three days in a house on a street called "Straight." Soon Saul (Paul) was directing others to the only way that's straight - God's Way.

Both Saul and Jonah had to be taught to use their talents to please God. We may need to be taught, also, through various experiences, that our talents belong to God. They bring us great joy when used for Him, but there is no peace when we hide them or use them foolishly. Neither Saul nor Jonah had peace until they did what God wanted them to. Even then, Jonah lacked compassion for those he preached to, so God had to deal with him again.

Anything wrapped in a napkin can't be used and is of no real value until it is used. A wealthy woman kept her sterling silver in a bank vault. At certain times, she came to the bank with several servants who cleaned and polished the silver to perfection. Then they wrapped it up again and returned it to the vault. It was beautiful and kept in excellent condition, but it was no good because it wasn't used. A talent is just like this silver - beautiful with excellent possibilities, but worthless when it's not used.

In the parable, the one who received one talent or pound didn't use it. He gave a lengthy excuse for doing nothing, but this didn't justify him. He was rejected, but the faithful ones were rewarded. God expects us to use our talents to honor Him and will reward us if we are faithful. If we are neglectful, we may offer excuses such as we're too busy, or we aren't able to do anything, but God will not accept them. It is more than just neglect when we don't use our talents, it is sin. "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin." James 4:17.

You may think you don't have any talent, or there is nothing you can do in Christian service, but there is! "But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will." 1 Cor. 12:11. Whatever the gift, all come from the same Spirit who gives as He will. No one is left out. The lad gave his loaves and fishes; the widow gave her mites. Paul became a missionary; Stephen became a martyr. Dorcas sewed for those who had need. Each one had something they could do and they did it. They didn't push it aside because the task was too big or too little and insignificant.

Are you using your talent to please God or do you have it laid up in a napkin? Do be a good steward of that which God gives you. When you can say, "Behold, I have gained. . . more"; He will reply, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things; enter thou into the joy of thy Lord." Matt. 25:21.

- Sister Eileen Broadwater

CHILDREN'S PAGE

THE BURNING BUSH

Ex. 2:23-25; 3:1-22

God's people, the children of Israel, were having a rough time in Egypt. The Egyptians made slaves of the Hebrews and gave them more and more work to do. They treated them badly and whipped them to get them to work harder. The Bible says, "They sighed and cried; and their cry came up unto God by reason of their bondage. And God heard their groaning." God decided the children of Israel needed help and He knew just the man to help them.

Now Moses had been forty years in the land of Midian, a desert country, and herded sheep for his father-in-law, Jethro. There was a mountain where Moses took his flock called the mountain of God which was Mt. Horeb. As Moses took his sheep around the mountain, where the pasture was better, he saw a bush that was on fire. This wasn't anything too strange as lightning often struck a large bush and caused it

to burn. But there was something unusual about this particular bush. It was on fire but it didn't burn up. As Moses watched, he said, "I will now turn aside, and see this strange sight and find out why the bush is not burnt." What would you think if you saw a bush on fire that wouldn't burn up?

And God called to Moses out of the burning bush and told him to take off his shoes because he was standing on holy ground. You see, God can do anything and the bush appeared to be on fire because God was there. God talked with Moses and said, "I am the God of they father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look upon God. God told Moses how he had seen the affliction of His people in Egypt and that He would deliver them and bring them into a good land flowing with milk and honey. God had something for Moses to do and said, "I will send you unto Pharaoh, that you may bring forth my people out of Egypt."

Moses was an humble man and said, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh to bring forth the children of Israel out of Egypt?" Then God told Moses that He would be with him and that after Moses had brought the children of Israel from Egypt that they would serve God on the very mountain where Moses was standing. God told Moses to go to the elders and tell them that God had sent him to deliver them; then they would go to Pharaoh and ask him to let them go three days journey in the wilderness to sacrifice to the Lord.

And God said, "I am sure that the king of Egypt will not let you go, and I will stretch out my hand and smite Egypt with all my wonders which I will do and after that he will let you go."

Do you know that we can worship the same God that talked to Moses in the burning bush? God has promised to be with us if we only trust Him. He can and will deliver us from this old world of sin just like He delivered the Children of Israel from the Egyptians and led them to the promised land. Our promised land is Heaven. Jesus said, "I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also."

- Brother Rudy Cover

NEWS ITEMS

WAUSEON, OHIO

The Lord willing, the Revival Meetings at the West Fulton Congregation will be August 13 through August 24. Elder Paul Reed from Riner, Virginia, will be our evangelist.

Come and enjoy these meetings with us.

- Sister Leola Beck, Cor.

CLEARVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA

The Wards Dunkard Brethren Church is looking forward to a Revival Meeting, starting on July 14 and ending July 20. There will be a basket lunch on the ground the last day.

Elder Paul Reed of Riner, Virginia, will be the evangelist. All are invited to attend these meetings. If you cannot be with us in person, please remember us in thought and prayer.

- Sister Angeline Mallow, Cor.



GRANDVIEW, MISSOURI

The Lord willing, the Grandview Congregation plan to have a Revival Meeting, beginning August 10 through August 17. Elder Paul R. Myers of Greentown, Ohio, will be our evangelist.

On Saturday, August 16, there will be services starting at 11:00 A.M., also at 2:00 P.M., with our Lovefeast and Communion services at 7:30 P.M.

We desire an interest in your prayers. Come and enjoy these meetings with us.

- Sister Bertha Jarboe, Cor.



GOSHEN, INDIANA

The Lord willing, the Goshen Congregation will have their Revival Meetings August 27 through September 7. Elder Paul Reed from Riner, Virginia, will be our evangelist.

Our Harvest Meeting will be Sunday, September 7, at the close of our meetings. Our Lovefeast will be November 1, beginning at 2:00 P.M.

We welcome all who can come and enjoy these meetings with us.

- Sister Maxine Swihart, Cor.



BETHEL, PENNSYLVANIA

The Bethel Congregation was happy to share in another Revival from March 23 to April 6, 1975. We appreciated the messages that Elder Dean St. John from Northern Ohio brought nightly. At the close of these meetings five precious souls were baptized and one was received back into the church. Since our revival we were glad to receive nine more precious souls into the church, five by baptism, two by rebaptism, and

two on their former baptism. Pray that they may all prove true and faithful to the end.

We were privileged to enjoy another Lovefeast service on April 27, 1975. The brethren who ministered to us during the day were Elder George Replogle from Englewood, Ohio, Brother Emmert Shelly, Jr. from Walnut Grove, Maryland, Brother John Pepper from Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, Elders Laverne Keeney, Allen Eberly, and Brother Jack Snyder from Lititz, Pennsylvania. In the evening 160 surrounded the Lord's table, with Elder George Replogle officiating.

- Sister Mary Hartz, Cor.



OBITUARY

GEORGE LORENZ

Son of Peter and Mary (Caylor) Lorenz was born on June 21, 1879, in Howard County, near Greentown, Indiana. Having been in failing health for the last six years, he departed this life on June 25, 1975, at 1:35 A.M., at the Wabash County Hospital, making his life-span 96 years and 4 days.

On December 9, 1902, he was married to Elsie May Peters, who preceded him in death on December 31, 1952.

To this union two sons were born, Harley C., deceased, and Leander of R. 5, Wabash, Indiana.

He was baptized into the Church of the Brethren on May 30, 1906, and later became a charter member of the Dunkard Brethren Church at Plevna, Indiana, to which he was an active and faithful member as long as health permitted. He served many years as a deacon. Our loss will be his eternal gain, as he was always concerned about the Church and loved his Saviour.

He was a retired farmer and a great lover of nature.

He had many friends wherever he went, especially the little children.

He is also survived by four grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; one sister, Mrs. Katie Hormel of Kokomo, Indiana; many nieces and nephews; and a host of friends.

Funeral services were conducted Saturday, June 28, at 10:00 A.M., at the Plevna Dunkard Brethren Church. Elder Melvin Roesch officiated, assisted by Elder Harley Rush. Interment in the Greenlawn Cemetery, near Greentown, Indiana.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR AUGUST

Aug. 3 - Working for the Sake of the Gospel. I Cor. 9:1-27

Aug. 10 - Temptation. I Cor. 10:1-33

Aug. 17 - The Order of God's House. I Cor. 11:1-16

Aug. 24 - The Lord's Supper, Communion, Self Examination.
I Cor. 11:17-34

Aug. 31 - Spiritual Gifts and the Body of Christ. I Cor. 12:1-31

QUESTIONS:

(1) What does the Lord expect from them that preach the Gospel?
I Cor. 9:14

(2) What has God promised to us when we are tempted? I Cor. 10:13

(3) What is the order in God's house? I Cor. 11:3

(4) Why is it so necessary that we examine ourselves before we
commune? I Cor. 11:28, 29

(5) What is the body of Christ composed of? I Cor. 12:14



MARRIAGE

KEENEY-LONGENECKER

Sister Joanne E. Keeney, daughter of Elder and Sister Laverne Keeney of Lititz, Pennsylvania, and Brother Dale Longenecker, son of Brother and Sister George Longenecker, Sr. of Bernville, Pennsylvania, were united in marriage on October 5, 1974, at the Lititz Dunkard Brethren Church. The bride's father, Elder Laverne Keeney performed the ceremony, after a message was brought by Brother David Kegerreis, brother-in-law of the groom. They are residing at Route 1, Bernville, Pennsylvania.

NISWANDER-KINZEL

Mrs. Henrietta Niswander and Brother John Kinzel, both of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, were united in holy matrimony at Brother Kinzel's home on September 29, 1974, in the presence of a number of friends, neighbors, and loved ones. The union was performed by Brother Paul Hartz, Jr. They continue to reside in Harrisburg.

DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR AUGUST

Memory Verse, Isa. 40:10

Behold, the Lord God will come with strong hand, and his arm shall rule for him; behold, his reward is with him, and his work before him.

Fri. 1 - Isa. 40:1-31

Sat. 2 - Isa. 41:1-29

Memory Verse, Isa. 51:11

Therefore the redeemed of the Lord shall return, and come with singing unto Zion; and everlasting joy shall be upon their head; they shall obtain gladness and joy; and sorrow and mourning shall flee away.

Mon. 4 - Isa. 44:1-28

Tues. 5 - Isa. 45:1-25

Wed. 6 - Isa. 47:1-15

Thurs. 7 - Isa. 48:1-22

Fri. 8 - Isa. 50:1-11

Sat. 9 - Isa. 51:1-23

Memory Verse, Isa. 52:1

Awake, awake; put on thy strength, O Zion; put on thy beautiful garments, O Jerusalem, the holy city; for henceforth there shall no more come into thee the uncircumcised and the unclean.

Sun. 10 - Isa. 52:1-15

Mon. 11 - Isa. 54:1-17

Tues. 12 - Isa. 55:1-13

Wed. 13 - Isa. 56:1-12

Thurs. 14 - Isa. 57:1-21

Fri. 15 - Isa. 59:1-21

Sat. 16 - Isa. 60:1-21

Memory Verse, Isa. 55:1

Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come,

buy wine and milk without money and without price.

Sun. 17 - Isa. 62:1-12

Mon. 18 - Isa. 63:1-19

Tues. 19 - Isa. 64:1-12

Wed. 20 - Isa. 65:1-25

Thurs. 21 - Isa. 66:1-24

Fri. 22 - Jer. 1:1-19

Sat. 23 - Jer. 2:1-22

Memory Verse, Isa. 55:3

Incline your ear, and come unto me; hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David.

Sun. 24 - Jer. 2:23-37

Mon. 25 - Jer. 3:1-25

Tues. 26 - Jer. 4:1-31

Wed. 27 - Jer. 5:1-31

Thurs. 28 - Jer. 6:1-30

Fri. 29 - Jer. 7:1-34

Sat. 30 - Jer. 8:1-22

Memory Verse, Isa. 57:1

The righteous perisheth, and no man layeth it to heart; and merciful men are taken away, none considering that the righteous is taken away from the evil to come.

Sun. 31 - Jer. 9:1-26

Memory Verse, Isa. 59:19, 20

So shall they fear the name of the Lord from the west, and his glory from the rising of the sun. When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord shall lift up a standard against him. And the Redeemer shall come to Zion, and unto them that turn from transgression in Jacob, saith the Lord.

Paul R. Myers
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BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LIII

AUGUST 1, 1975

NO. 15

"For the faith once for all delivered to the saints."

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

ALWAYS WITH JESUS

Think of Jesus in the morning.
Think of Jesus through the day.
Feel His Presence ever near you
As you bow your head to pray.

Talk to Jesus in the morning.
Talk to Jesus through the day.
Always seek His loving guidance
In everything you do or say.

Walk with Jesus in the morning.
Walk with Jesus through the day.
Ever be in sweet communion
With your Saviour all the way.

Past life's pitfalls let Him lead you.
Never stray too far behind.
Then at night as sleep o'ertakes you
Peace and comfort you will find.

Gladys Hann
Selected by Sister Blanche Eberly

CHANGE

We are all aware of change - we see it on every hand. This issue of the Bible Monitor marks such a change. The duties of the editorship have been laid upon the writer as a change of health has prompted our Brother to resign these duties after several years of diligent labor. This marks the fourth change of editors in the fifty three year history of the Bible Monitor.

This is but one change we notice as we travel the pathway of life. Change is constant. Change is not new. Paul writes, "the things which are seen are temporal." II Cor. 4:18b. That which we can see will last only for a limited time. If one denies there is change he has only to look at his body to see the change wrought by a few years. The human body is constantly changing. The story of a man's life from the cradle to the grave is a story of change.

Some things last only for a few seconds, some for a few years, some for a few centuries but whatever their endurance, it is limited. We are reminded of our nation's history in this year of our Bicentennial Celebration. Monuments, landmarks and objects of the past will be displayed for our interest and edification. These displays are interesting because they are among the few objects that have survived two hundred years of living and change. A house built in 1775 is of interest because it is the one of hundreds built that year which has survived while others have given way to change.

THE BIBLE MONITOR**AUGUST 1, 1975**

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Not only do our bodies and our homes change but the public affairs of men change, often very quickly. Nations, governments and rulers are elected, rejected, reshaped or ignored as the pages of history are written. Today it seems that change comes thicker and faster than ever.

As the pages of history are turned one by one to reveal their changes many in this world can not cope with these ever changing conditions. How then can the Christian handle the stress of change? He can read Paul's words "but the things which are not seen are eternal." II Cor. 4:18c. Though all around him is like a rushing river the Christian still occupies a piece of firm dry ground. The things seen are only for a season of time but the things unseen are eternal. Knowing the Eternal God of Heaven as his Heavenly Father gives the Christian security while all around him are distressed by continuous change.

You and I, if we are Christians, can face drastic changes in our affairs. We can say along with Paul, "For I have learned in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content." Phil. 4:11b. These changes will not unbalance us though they may sadden, burden or develop us because our unseen Father is in control. He will not allow anything to come into our lives but what is best for us in the long run.

We can not see God, but by the eye of faith we can perceive Him through His Handiwork. "Now faith is . . . the evidence of things not seen." Hebrews 11:1. Who else could form the great mountain ranges, the magnificent canyons or the intricate human body? Only the unchanging Eternal God of Heaven could form dust into so many beautiful shapes.

Love can not be seen nor even be well-defined but there is no greater force in Earth or in Heaven. It is an eternal force. "And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity." I Cor. 13:13. Faith and Hope will be fulfilled in the Glory of Heaven but love will continue forever.

God's will for you and me is the same today as in the day of Creation, "for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created." Rev. 4:11b. We are to please Him. To please Him we must follow His Word which He has revealed to us as an unchanging standard for all ages. "Thy Word is truth." John 17:17b. His truth is as true in the twentieth century as it was in the first century. Though the morality of the world may fluctuate according to fad and fashion; the Bible is our standard for all ages, all climes and all situations.

God does not change. His love does not change. His Word does not change. What more could the Christian ask for as an anchor even in the midst of severe change? Are you able to stand the stress of change? With God as your helper, you can.

ANSWERED PRAYERS

Part 19

Sometimes our prayers are not answered, but it is not God's fault. It may not be our fault, either. God expects certain conditions to be met, and if they are not met, sometimes our prayers are not answered.

My mind presently is directed to Abraham. He is called the Father of the Faithful. He was the son of Terah, and founder of the great Hebrew Nation.

His family, a branch of the descendants of Shem, settled in the Ur of the Chaldees, beyond the Euphrates River, where Abraham was born.

Abraham was seventy five years old when his father passed away. He and his wife Sarai and Lot journeyed to the land of Canaan.

Here he received from God a revelation that all the families of the earth should be blessed in him.

Abraham was a righteous man, fully believing in God. He had no use for idolatrous worship. God told him he would inherit the land of Canaan and that they would become a great nation.

Sarah and Abraham were childless when God made them this promise. They were well up in years and neither could understand how there could be so many descendants.

God knew. The promise was through Isaac, who was born when Abraham was an hundred years old.

We know how God tried Abraham's faith by requiring Abraham to offer Isaac upon the altar of sacrifice. Abraham carried out God's instructions, "going all the way" in offering Isaac.

Abraham lived in a world of idolatry. Ur was in Babylonia, and Babylonia had many gods and goddesses. They worshipped fire, the sun, the moon, the stars and other forces of nature.

While his countrymen were idol worshippers, Abraham only worshipped the true God. **THE ONLY GOD WHICH WE SHOULD WORSHIP**

Sodom and Gomorrah were only a few miles from the home of Abraham. These were very wicked cities. Sin was very prevalent. Many people were engulfed in these cities' wickedness. Abraham was not. He did not condone their sins. He did not become entangled in it. This teaches us that, though we may be encompassed with sin, we need not engage in it.

God knew Abraham would not indulge, therefore He could make the promise to him that He did, that all the nations would be blessed in him.

God beholds from the Heavens things taking place on the earth. He beheld the wickedness of Sodom and Gomorrah. In Genesis 18:20, God stated that their sin was very grievous.

It was God's mind to destroy both cities. Abraham was greatly concerned. He asked the Lord if He would destroy the righteous with the wicked?

Now we come to the prayers and pleadings of Abraham. He really was concerned and pled for his people. He asked God that if there be fifty righteous within the city, if He would destroy the city and not spare the fifty?

The Lord said, "If I find in Sodom fifty righteous within the city, then I will spare all the place for their sakes."

I believe Abraham was very thankful for this promise. But Abraham, knowing their wickedness, perhaps was fearful fifty righteous could not be found.

He proposed to God to spare the city if forty-five righteous could be found. God agreed. Still not quite sure and concerned for the people, he approached God to spare if forty righteous could be found. God said, "yes."

Abraham continued to plead, and I believe pray, for these people until God promised to spare if ten righteous could be found.

Ten righteous could not be found. We read in Genesis 19:24, "Then the Lord rained upon Sodom and Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the Lord out of Heaven."

Here is an instance when a God chosen man, who was faithful, prayed and pled for others, did not have his prayer answered. Not because of Abraham, but because of the wickedness of the ones Abraham prayed for.

Through Abraham's example and I believe his prayers in their behalf, Lot and his wife and two daughters were delivered, before the destruction, but Lot's wife disobeyed, by looking back. God had commanded her not to, but when she did, she became a pillar of salt.

To benefit from prayer and to have our prayers answered, we must be an obedient servant of our Lord and of our Father who art in Heaven.

Brother Paul R. Myers
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ACTIONS SPEAK LOUDER THAN WORDS

"What you do speaks so loud, I can't hear what you say." Perhaps someone has made this remark to you, concerning something you did. What he is telling you is that you said one thing and did another. When your actions and speech do not agree, he will know you do not mean what you say. Whatever impression your speech leaves, it will be proven or destroyed by the way you conduct yourself.

Our actions are our real testimony, not what we say. They are an outgrowth of what is in our hearts. People read our actions to see whether we mean it when we say we love God, and love to do His will. We tell them all about our relationship to God, our families and friends, our enemies, our brothers and sisters in the Lord by what we do. They soon know whether God has given us a heart of love, or whether we are just professors who don't mean what we say.

From a heart of love comes acts of kindness, as well as kind words and thoughts. Praying for someone in spiritual distress, lending a helping hand, visiting with a shut-in are a few examples of kind acts, but we should go beyond that. As Christians, we are to love even our enemies, so that means we must act like it. Can you smile, even though all you get is a frown in return? It takes more physical effort to frown than to smile, but oh, how easy it is to frown back at someone! Try the smile routine on your enemies, and see if you can draw them close enough to you to be a friend.

From an unloving heart comes a scowl instead of a smile, an unfriendly attitude toward one with whom there is disagreement, maybe even a refusal to speak at all. There is no loving and prayerful concern when one is down and out spiritually. The attitude which should be "I hope I can help" is more like: "I'm sure he knows better, and I don't think he wants help. Anyhow, it sure doesn't look like he's trying to live right." Too often we care more when a person's routine is interrupted by a fire or similar disaster. But when spiritual help is needed, we turn a cold shoulder and push them farther into the depths of sin and discouragement.

"My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth." I John 3:18. Why is it so necessary to do something to show that we love? Why isn't it enough to just say so? "But whoso hath this world's goods and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?" I John 3:17. Our relationship to God is shown by our attitudes and actions toward others. If God's love is in us, we will have compassion and love for others.

Two Jewish brothers had farms side by side. One night after the gathering of the harvest, the elder brother said to his wife, "My brother is a lonely man who has neither wife nor children; I will go out and carry some of my sheaves into his field." That same night, the younger one said, "My brother has a wife and children, and needs the harvest more than I; I will carry some of my sheaves into his field."

To the amazement of both, the next morning their respective heaps were unchanged. The mystery was not revealed until one moonlit night, the brothers, with their arms full of sheaves, met midway face to face!

They loved, and were concerned for each other, and their deeds proved it.

Jesus said, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." If Jesus was the direct recipient, you would think how easy it is to show Him love and compassion. And we are eager to help one who is important in our eyes. But how about the beggar, the orphan, the skidrow bum, the least of the brethren? Can you then have compassion and show it?

Christians are motivated to action by love. This love also shows that we belong to God. "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." John 13:35. "He that loveth not, knoweth not God; for God is love." I John 4:8. True love gives, and giving demands action. If God's love is in your heart, you will act like it. You can talk about love, and say you have it, but the world believes you when you act like it. Let your actions and words agree, for if they don't, no one will hear what you say. Actions do speak much louder than words.

Sister Eileen Broadwater

CHILDREN'S PAGE

A STICK BECOMES A SNAKE

Exodus 4:1-17

Do you believe that an old stick of wood could become a living snake that could crawl on the ground? It sounds impossible, doesn't it? But with God all things are possible. God can do anything! Moses had a stick, or a rod, in his hand that he used to count sheep. God said to Moses, "What is that in your hand?" And Moses said, "A rod." God said, "Cast it on the ground." Moses did and what do you think happened? The rod became a serpent - a snake and it chased Moses so that he ran away from it. The Lord told Moses to catch it by the tail. Moses did; and as soon as he took hold of the snake, it became a rod again.

God also told Moses to put his hand into his bosom or chest, inside his coat. Moses did and when he took his hand out, it was leprous. Leprosy was a disease that was incurable at that time and I wonder what Moses thought. But God told Moses to put his hand back again and when he took it out the second time, it was just like his other hand. There was no sign of leprosy on it. I can imagine how surprised Moses was, can't you?

Then God told Moses that he was to show the children of Israel these signs to prove to them that Moses had been sent by God. If they wouldn't believe after having seen these signs, Moses was to take water from the river and pour it upon dry land and the water would turn to blood in the sight of the people.

By this time you would think Moses would do anything God told him without any doubt but Moses said to the Lord, "O my Lord, I am of slow speech and of a slow tongue. Can't you send someone to speak to the people for me?"

The anger of the Lord was kindled against Moses, and God said, "Who has made man's mouth? Is not Aaron, the Levite, thy brother? I know that he can speak well. I will be with thy mouth and with his mouth and will teach you what ye shall do. And he shall be your spokesman unto the people."

So Moses returned to Jethro, his father-in-law, and said, "Let me go and return to my brethren which are in Egypt." Jethro said, "Go in peace."

God can turn a piece of wood into a snake and do anything else He wants. When He calls us to do something we should be willing, and trust God to help and guide us. Even though we think we are not able to do what God asks; God can make us able. "We can do all things through Him who strengtheneth us."

Brother Rudy Cover

WHAT THE CHURCH HAS HEARD FROM GOD

By L. W. Teeter - 1908

To tell what the church has heard from God is nothing less than to tell what God has said to the church.

God being perfect, he gave to the church a perfect message, with the design that the church should hear and accept that message in its perfection.

It is therefore important, in the first place, to understand what is meant by the word "church," in our subject. The term "church," as used in our subject, must necessarily be understood to mean the assembly of persons converted to God by the hearing of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, proclaimed by himself, founded and organized by him into a covenant body of worshipers during his personal ministry on earth, with himself as its head. That body of which Jesus said, that the gates of hell should not

prevail against it (Matt. 16:18). That organization which in the first centuries of its existence endured the severest persecutions, - even martyrdom; in which many of its most faithful adherents sealed their faith with their own life's blood. That body whose Chief Shepherd preserved a succession of faithful representatives of its doctrine, faith and love through the long, dark period of the Middle Ages; and nourished it through the years of the great Reformation of Martin Luther and others; and until it resumed its ancient organic form, in the year 1708, at Schwarzenau, Germany; of which Alexander Mack, Sr., wrote, saying: "We have, indeed, no new church, nor any new laws: but in simplicity and true faith we desire to remain with the old church which Christ instituted through his blood, and to follow the commandment which was from the beginning" (Mack's Writings). . . .

The message, therefore, which the church of 1908 has heard from God, is the same message that her primitive ancestress heard from God, through his Son Jesus Christ, during his personal ministry and teaching among his disciples; and his spiritual ministry from his resurrection to his ascension; and through the inspiration of his chosen apostles.

Thus the entire message was delivered to the church during a period of nearly a century from its beginning. As to the contents of that message, our only reliable source of the most direct information is the last twenty-seven books of the Holy Bible, as canonized by the best ecclesiastical authority, many centuries ago, and entitled The New Testament of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

This blessed volume has ever been held as strictly sacred and divine by all Christendom. It has stood the test, and been preserved, as we must believe, by superhuman power, and kept intact and inviolate against the fiercest opposition of all its enemies and critics. God has also shown the church throughout this great message the absolute, self-evident proof of the divine authenticity of the Old Testament, composed of the first thirty-nine books of the Holy Bible. This proof exists in the fact that the contents of God's message to the church show the complete fulfillment of all the Old Testament types, shadows and prophecies predicted in it thousands of years before their fulfillment. Besides, when they are compared, either one proves the authenticity of the other; and their agreement shows that they have one common origin, and that the primary purpose of both is the salvation of the world, through the Son of God. Now, the church is told that "God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16). This great love God had when Adam and Eve were overtaken in sin, and when he declared to the serpent that the seed of the woman should bruise his head, and that he should bruise his heel (Gen. 3:15).

In this very emphatic declaration God already indicated his deter-

mination to exercise his great love, through the production of a Son, who should suffer in behalf of the yet unborn sinful world; and through his suffering overcome the world, conquer and completely subdue Satan, and destroy all his works (Heb. 2:14; I John 3:8).

In about four thousand years God fulfilled this great promise by sending his angel Gabriel to the virgin Mary to notify her that she should bring forth a son, whom she should name Jesus, and to say to her: "The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee; therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God (Luke 1:35). She was told to call his name Jesus because he should save his people from their sins (Matt. 1:26); and also Emmanuel, because he would be "God with men" (Matt. 1:23). Immediately after Jesus' birth, God sent his angel to notify the shepherds who were watching their sheep by night, saying: "Behold, I bring you glad tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." Suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." (Luke 2:8-14). Thus was the "seed of the woman" developed, and God's first great promise fulfilled (Gen. 3:15). As to the divinity of his Son, God has shown the church, by Matthew, an unbroken line of his ancestors, from his birth, through forty-two generations, back to the patriarch Abraham, his great covenant-father (Gal. 3:16), (Matt. 1:1-17). By Luke he records a complete line of his progenitors through seventy-five generations to Adam, and back to himself, the Creator (Luke 3:23-38). By John he declares his existence with himself before the creation of the first man, saying: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men;" and that this "Word was made flesh and dwelt among" his people who "beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth" (John 1:1-14).

The church is also informed that "there was a man sent from God," miraculously produced and filled with the Holy Ghost from his birth, "whose name was John," who came for a witness to bear witness of Jesus, that all men through him might believe in Jesus (John 1:6, 7). When John saw Jesus coming to him, one day, he said: "Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world;" and "that he should be made manifest to Israel, therefore am I come baptizing with water." "I saw the Spirit descending from Heaven like a dove, and it abode upon him. And I knew him not: but he that sent me to baptize with water, said unto me, Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending and remaining on him, the same is he which baptizeth with the Holy

Ghost. And I saw, and bare record that this is the Son of God." (John 1:29-34). Again, at Jesus' baptism, God himself, by audible voice, was heard to say: "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." (Matt. 3:17). Again, on the mount of transfiguration, Peter, James and John witnessed that Jesus' face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light, and that Moses and Elias talked with him, and a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice out of the cloud said, "This is my beloved Son; hear ye him." (Matt. 17:1-5). Of this event, Peter testifies later, saying: "We have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ; but were eye-witness of his majesty." "For he received from God the Father, honor and glory, when there came such a voice to him from the excellent glory: This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased. And this voice which came from heaven, we heard, when we were with him in the holy mount." (II Peter 1:16-18). Jesus, himself, in his prayer, refers to his pre-existence, with the Father, saying; "And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self, with the glory which I had with thee, before the world was" (John 17:5). In about forty days this prayer was answered. His disciples were with him, when he ascended, and beheld him, until a cloud received him out of their sight. Then two men in "white apparel" stood by them, and said, "Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus which is taken up from you into heaven shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven" (Acts 1:11). Lastly, the promised Comforter testifies of Jesus' divinity. Shortly before his crucifixion, Jesus had said to his disciples; "It is expedient for you that I go away; for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you" (John 16:7). "He shall testify of me" (John 15:26). In about ten days after his ascension, at Pentecost, the Comforter came, according to Jesus' promise, - proving conclusively his arrival at the right hand of the Father. Besides, his testimony of all that Jesus' ministerial work among men; and showed the approval of the Father in heaven of the same.

Now the church is informed that Jesus is received up into heaven and is set down on the right hand of God, (Mark 16:19) that he might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people. (Heb. 2:17). Shortly before his death, Jesus said to his disciples; "Be of good cheer, I have overcome the world." (John 16:33). After being seated upon his heavenly throne, he says to the church, by revelation: "To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne." (Rev. 3:21).

To be continued

- Selected from Two Centuries of the Church of the Brethren

PROPHECY AND FULFILLMENT

Jesus said in John 1:17, "For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ."

Prophecy: Psalms 69:9, For the zeal of thine house hath eaten me up; and the reproaches of them that reproached thee are fallen upon me.

Fulfillment: John 2:17, And his disciples remembered that it was written, The zeal of thine house hath eaten me up.

Prophecy: Isaiah 11:10, And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek; and his rest shall be glorious.

Fulfillment: John 3:14, And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the son of man be lifted up.

Prophecy: Isaiah 54:13, And all thy children shall be taught of the Lord; and great shall be the peace of thy children.

Fulfillment: John 6:45, It is written in the prophets, And they shall be all taught of God. Every man therefore that hath heard, and hath learned of the Father, cometh unto me.

Prophecy: Psalms 82:6-8, I have said, Ye are gods; and all of you are children of the most high. But ye shall die like men, and fall like one of the princes. Arise, O God, judge the earth; for thou shalt inherit all nations.

Fulfillment: John 10:34, Jesus answered them, Is it not written in your law, I said, Ye are God's?

Prophecy: Zechariah 9:9, Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee; he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass.

Fulfillment: John 12:15, Fear not, daughter of Sion: behold, thy King cometh, sitting on an ass's colt.

Prophecy: Isaiah 53:1, Who hath believed our report? and to whom is the arm of the Lord revealed?

Fulfillment: John 12:38, That the saying of Esaias the prophet might be fulfilled, which he spake, Lord, who hath believed our report? and to whom hath the arm of the Lord been revealed?

Prophecy: Isaiah 6:10, Make the heart of this people fat, and make their ears heavy, and shut their eyes; lest they see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and convert, and be healed.

Fulfillment: John 12:39-40, Therefore they could not believe, because that Esaias said again, He hath blinded their eyes, and hardened their heart; that they should not see with their eyes, nor understand with their heart, and be converted, and I should heal them.

Prophecy: Isaiah 6:1, In the year that king Uzziah died I saw also the

Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his train filled the temple.

Fulfillment: John 12:41, These things said Esaias, when he saw his glory, and spake of him.

Prophecy: Psa. 41:9, Yea, mine own familiar friend, in whom I trusted, which did eat of my bread, hath lifted up his heel against me.

Fulfillment: John 13:18, I speak not of you all: I know whom I have chosen; but that the scripture may be fulfilled, He that eateth bread with me hath lifted up his heel against me.

Prophecy: Psa. 69:4, They that hate me without a cause are more than the hairs of mine head; they that would destroy me, being mine enemies wrongfully, are mighty; then I restored that which I took not away.

Fulfillment: John 15:25, But this cometh to pass, that the word might be fulfilled that was written in their law, They hated me without a cause.

Prophecy: Psa. 41:9, Yea, mine own familiar friend, in whom I trusted, which did eat of my bread, hath lifted up his heel against me.

Fulfillment: John 17:12, While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name; those that thou gavest me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the scripture might be fulfilled.

Prophecy: Psa. 22:18, They part my garments among them, and cast lots upon my vesture.

Fulfillment: John 19:24, They said therefore among themselves, Let us not rend it, but cast lots for it, whose it shall be; that the scripture might be fulfilled, which saith, They parted my raiment among them, and for my vesture they did cast lots. These things therefore the soldiers did.

Prophecy: Psa. 34:20, He keepeth all his bones; riot one of them is broken.

Fulfillment: John 19:36, For these things were done, that the scripture should be fulfilled, A bone of him shall not be broken.

Prophecy: Zech. 12:10, And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications; and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn.

Fulfillment: John 19:37, And again another scripture saith, They shall look on him whom they pierced.

Brother W. E. Bashor
867 Lorna Dr., Glen Ellen, Ca. 95442



Activity may lead to evil; but inactivity cannot be led to good.

- Hannah More

THE IMPORTANCE OF CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

The church is of high origin. It is of God. It is of priceless value. Its establishment cost the blood of Christ. It is held in high esteem, for Christ loved the church and gave himself for it. Eph. 5:25. The church is the kingdom of God, and his kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; "of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end." Isa. 9:7.

It is important to become a member of the church, for in the church is salvation. We have no promise of salvation out of it. We get into the church through Christ. We cannot enter in any other way. "By me if any man enter in he shall be saved." John 10:9. We enter the church in Christian baptism and if we are in Christ we are in the church. "For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ." Gal. 3:27.

If we leave the church we leave Christ. In the struggle for eternal life, the crown is to him that holds out faithful to the end. "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life." Rev. 2:10. In the church we learn the great lesson of perseverance, - a faithful continuance in well-doing. It is there that we learn the lesson of brotherly love and brotherly forbearance. We would lack life's discipline, - the struggle of the newborn soul for victory over the world. There would be no means of growth in knowledge and spiritual life, no life of separation from the world, no means of self-denial, of bringing into subjection all that is evil in human nature and developing all that is good.

In the church there is communion with God, union with Christ and fellowship with the saints. The church is the "pillar and ground of the truth," and holds up before the world the pure Word of God, and invites sinners to come into Christ, the way of salvation. It is the church that sends out God's faithful ministers and sustains their labors by her example in obeying the commandments of God, and in maintaining the principles of the Gospel of Christ. Each member has a part in this great work, and as each one gives and as each one does so shall be his reward. It is a work for Christ who gave himself for the church. In the church "we are laborers together with God;" then, as God gives the means and the power to do, each one should use them and not withhold them.

The church is an organization complete within itself. All her members receive her care, her love, her protection. All who join the church must come out from the world and be a separate people. God has put within the church all that is good, all that is needful for man's happiness here and hereafter. In the church the soul is fed with the Bread of Life; and the thirsty soul may drink the Water of Life. Within her embrace is life, and liberty, and exercise for all that is lawful, and pure, and holy.

The first step towards the church is a step towards heaven. The first step from the church is a step towards sin and death. Sin degrades, seeks lower levels - the level of the world that lieth in sin. Some are drawn away by a desire to dress after the fashion of the world. That desire is sinful; God would not have us decorate the body that shall die, but he would have us adorn the soul with Christian graces. Others are enticed into the meshes of some secret order where they spend their time and means to the furtherance of the kingdom of darkness. Then others, becoming restless under the restraints which Christ has thrown around his people for their protection from the inroads of the world, the flesh and the devil, seek more liberty in ways where the cross of Christ is not felt, and they need not bear his yoke.

- Selected

NEWS ITEMS

NOTICE

All subscriptions, articles and news items should be sent to the Editor: Bro. Milton Cook, Apt. 3, 1309 W. Lynne Ave., Anaheim, California 92802.

We urge our readers to write articles for the Monitor. Read the Suggestions to Contributors and the Editorial Policy printed in the February 1st issue then write.

Remember the Bible Monitor is going to be just about what you make it. If you write, it will be full of original material; if you do not write it will be full of selected material. Please do your part.

SHREWSBURY PA.

The Lord willing the Shrewsbury Congregation is looking forward to a two week Revival, starting August 3 through August 17. Eld. Joseph Flora from Dallas Center, Iowa will be the evangelist. Pray for the meetings, and come and worship with us.

Sis. Fern Ness, Cor.



THE BIBLE--If I am asked what is the remedy for the deeper sorrows of the human heart, I must point to something which in the well-known hymn is called, "The old, old story," told of an old, old Book, and taught with the old, old teaching which is the greatest and best guide ever given to mankind. - W. Gladstone

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BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LIII

AUGUST 15, 1975

NO. 16

"For the faith once for all delivered to the saints."

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

THE PRECIOUS NAME OF JESUS

There is a name I love to hear;

I love to sing its worth;

It sounds like music in mine ear,

The sweetest name on earth.

It tells me of a Saviour's love,

Who died to set me free;

It tells me of his precious blood,

The sinner's perfect plea.

It tells of One whose loving heart

Can feel my smallest woe,

Who in each sorrow bears a part

That none can bear below.

This name shall shed its fragrance still

Along this thorny road -

Shall sweetly smooth the rugged hill

That leads me up to God.

And there with all the blood-bought throng,

From sin and sorrow free,

I'll sing the new eternal song

Of Jesus' love to me.

- Frederick Whitfield

OUR VALUES

A few weeks ago the news was filled with the story of the serious injury and subsequent putting away of a racehorse. This story occupied a place in the news normally reserved for some of the most important news of the day. The exaltation of that event, as connected with pleasure and the sin of gambling, over the more serious affairs of this world's events, is but an illustration of the faulty sense of values in this country and, indeed, in the whole world. Christians need to be careful lest they also lose their right sense of values.

Many things are valuable to us. Whatever is important to us, whether wealth, position, fame, or Christ and His Church, is what we value. It is possible to put the wrong things first. Since the world, at large, does not value God's Word or serving Him in righteousness, it is to be expected that more is spent on liquor or cigarettes or sporting events than on the spreading of the Gospel year after year. It is little wonder that the advertisements in the newspapers and magazines are aimed at developing a desire for fun, popularity and sex appeal. These are the things of value to the unconverted.

God in His Word has warned us about the choice we must make in our values if we are to please Him. As His blood-bought children, Christians have a love-enforced duty to please Him. Jesus directs our mind to the necessity of this choice in John 14:23 "... If a man love me, he will keep my words:..." The "if" in His statement implies there is a

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choice. It could be either "if a man does. . ." or "if a man does not. . ." This means to us that whichever choice a man makes, it will govern his actions accordingly. The "if" also shows a choice in that it implies some will keep His Words and some will not. It depends on your values which choice you will make. Is doing what will insure God's approval more important to you? These words of choice fell from Divine Lips not from the lips of mortal man.

After His Resurrection, Jesus called on Peter, and indirectly on us, to choose what was most valuable in his life. John 21. Three times Jesus asked Peter, "Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these?" What would Peter's choice be? Jesus or the fishes and the loaves? His choice would be Jesus above the objects of this life - even above what we term necessities. Peter was willing to choose Jesus above life itself, for Jesus warned him of his death just a few sentences later. Peter valued Jesus and serving Him; now Jesus had a place for him to feed the lambs and the sheep. Would your sense of values direct you to choose Jesus above the necessities of life or even life itself?

God has blessed most of us not only with the necessities of life but also with many luxuries. He has given us pleasant dwellings and dear ones to make our houses, homes. We love our families. We would be willing to sacrifice almost anything we have for their welfare. We value our families. But Jesus asks us to place Him above our loved ones - are we willing? "He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me." Matt. 10:37. Jesus wants to be above our mortal relationships, as hard as that may seem. Our love for our children prompts us to buy for them whatever they might desire. But it should be tempered by our greater love for Jesus that would caution us that to give without limit will corrupt their morals. Our love for Jesus may force us to oppose our loved ones when they do wrong or they oppose our more consecrated service for Him. Our sense of values should dictate to us which is most important - Jesus or our family. Who occupies first place in your heart?

Jesus gave an example of one who had his values mixed up. Luke 12. The rich man had prospered. His ground brought forth abundantly. He had labored and planned diligently. He would now build even greater barns to store his wealth of grain. It was his plan to live out his days in ease and pleasure. But. . . God called a halt. He had valued wealth but had forgotten his soul. His sense of values was all mixed-up. In the treasures of this world he had prospered but in the treasures of Heaven he was deficient. No wonder Jesus called him a fool. His earthly wealth would do him no good and it was too late to lay up treasures in Heaven.

Would God call you a fool? Is your sense of values in line with the world's or with God's?

ANSWERED PRAYERS

Part 20

On earth our Lord "took Peter and John and James, and went up into a mountain to pray. And as he prayed, the fashion of his countenance was altered, and his raiment was white and glistening." Luke 9:28, 29.

In Heaven He continues to pray, making intercessions for us.

Christ lived on earth about thirty-three and a half years. He taught and healed and preached about three and a half years.

In our praying, our prayers should be persistent. God's delays are not always denials. Sometimes He proposes to make us wait a good long time. He may be trying our faith. He may be observing if we are in earnest for that which we are praying. He chooses the time to answer.

As an example, the Church has been praying for nearly two thousand years the last prayer in the Bible. "Even so, come, Lord Jesus." Rev. 22:20.

He hears these prayers and we know that He is coming again. But, because He does not come when we pray this prayer, does not indicate that He will not come. He answers prayers according to His timing. He will answer this one in due time.

In this article I wish to refer to a prayer of Moses, as recorded in Deut. 3:25. "I pray thee, let me go over, and see the good land that is beyond Jordan, that goodly mountain, and Lebanon."

God answered at this time to Moses thus, "Speak no more unto me of this matter." But the Lord did not say "no."

Neither did God forget Moses' prayer.

Centuries later we find Moses in the land talking with our blessed Lord. Luke 9:30.

I believe the proper way to pray to God is to make a complete submittal unto Him. Lay our burden openly and frankly before almighty God. Pray in Faith. Then leave the matter with Him.

Days, weeks, perhaps years later, maybe after we have forgotten our prayer - God has not, He provides just the right answer at the right time.

I believe all prayers are answered in one of three ways. Yes, no or later.

Whichever way God chooses is certainly for our best.

At a meeting in a small western town, an elderly man was converted. Another elderly man stepped forward, with tears streaming from his eyes, told how, fifty years earlier, twenty-five young people had made a pledge to pray for this man every day. He said, "I am the only one still living to see the prayers of fifty years answered."

Keep on praying. If it be God's will, He will answer in due course of time.

Brother Paul R. Myers
Box 117, Greentown, Ohio 44630

NOTES FROM 1975 CONFERENCE

1975 Conference days have come and gone, leaving behind many happy memories. Mission Springs Camp is located in a beautiful setting made by the beauties of nature which God gave. Everyone was provided for in a wonderful way through the efforts of the camp staff and our own helpers from Ceres.

It was an inspiration to meet and fellowship with the Brothers and Sisters from all parts of the country but best of all was the spiritual food received from each service.

Everyone was made happy by the large number of young Brothers and Sisters present. This told us that our beloved Church will be carried on to God's honor when our older leaders have been called Home.

Saturday P.M.

The services were opened by singing "Sing the Wonderous Story" which seemed to be the keynote of the Conference. Opening: Bro. Fred Pifer reading Luke 9:28-53, using verse 51 as his subject, emphasizing the phrase "He steadfastly SET his face." We all have a place where we are headed. Jesus set His face towards Jerusalem the place of God's temple. We should set our faces toward our heavenly home and allow no earthly obstacle to prevent our entering in.

First Speaker: Bro. Paul Byfield. We have had temporal food now let us have spiritual food.

Text: Numbers 6:24-27

Adam had peace with God because he was completely righteous and completely holy. Rom. 5:1. Christ gave us JUSTIFICATION that we might be like Adam when he was placed in the garden. Peace is freedom from inward and outward disturbance. Eph. 2:12-18. John 14:23, 26, 27.

As the prodigal son hungered for temporal food and returned to his father to be filled so let us enjoy the spiritual food from the Conference.

Second Speaker: Bro. Milton Cook. Text: Mark 15:6-15.

This was the greatest crisis the world has ever met. Barabbas was a robber, murderer and a seditionist. Rome was in control, the Jews were in rebellion with Barabbas at the head. It is much easier to be against something than to be for it. The mob feared Jesus. We are in the same place as Barabbas until we are justified by Christ. How many white lies have we told? Barabbas describes you and me but Christ died for each of us. Sin is a cancer eating away at our lives.

Saturday Evening

Moderator: Bro. Joseph Flora.

The singing at each Conference service was outstanding and uplifting. Conference is sharing the good things of God. The singing and

opening is just an appetizer. The sermon is the main meal.

Opening: Bro. Clyde Schultz. Text: Jude 1-25.

Speaker: Bro. Harley Flory. Text: I Kings 19:1-19.

Question: "What doest thou here, Elijah?" The journey before us is too great for our own strength. Sometimes we are in the depths and sometimes on the heights in life. "Where art thou?" Adam hid among the trees. Elijah hid in a cave but God knew where they were. Hagar hid but God told her to return to her mistress. Saul did not carry out God's plan in his life so I Sam. 15:26 tells us God was sorry he had made Saul King over Israel. Have we carried out God's commands? Solomon said, "Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man." Jeremiah says, "Amend your ways and your doings and obey the voice of the Lord your God."

Saul on the way to Damascus to persecute the Christians met God and his life plan was changed. Now he asked, "Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?" Paul's plea throughout Romans 8 is to walk after the Spirit and not after the flesh. God made Hell as well as Heaven. Satan will provoke each of us and we must follow God's commands throughout life if we dwell with Him. May God keep us in His will.

Closing: Bro. Frank Shaffer.

A little boy found his father in the saloon and asked, "What are you doing here?"

Sunday Morning

The opening songs echoed Saturday nights message, "Where He leads Me I will Follow" and "I'll go with Him."

Devotions: Bro. Hayes Reed. Text: Nehemiah 1:1-11.

Satan is eating away at the walls of the Church today. We are the remnant. Ships need the lighthouses to guide them to the shore. Christ is our lighthouse. Satan brings discouragement on the sea of life and we need to keep our eyes on our Lighthouse.

Sunday A.M.

Song leader: Bro. Ezra Beery.

Opening: Bro. George Replogle. Text: Psalms 111.

Satan cannot overpower God. The world would not be worth living in if God's commandments and promises were not sure. And the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.

First Speaker: Bro. Jacob Ness. Text: Hebrews 13:14-25. Subject: Communications.

Be willing to communicate. Paul communicated and thus we have the Gentile Christians. Sinners observe our attitude. Are we gloomy? The two on the way to Emmaus were sad. We may have a private line to the throne of God but we must keep it in repair. We have a 24 hour answering service in Heaven. Let us keep a good connection. God did not

grant Paul's request to remove the thorn from his flesh but he did give him strength to carry on. More people are sung to Heaven than are preached to God. A wrong communication could wreck an airplane. Let us keep on the straight and narrow path and send out right communications as Christ commanded in Matt. 28:19-20.

As a summary: Be willing and ready to communicate. Be careful to communicate. Forget not to communicate. Have effective communication.

Second Speaker: Bro. James Kegerreis. Text: Isa. 43:1-23.

We have two lines of prophecy - one to us and the other to the Jews. The Church was established through Jesus that it be pure, blameless and without spot. The church is a living organism as well as an organization. We cannot separate God and Christ. God can pluck us out of the hands of Satan and put us on the narrow way. This brings peace. Pray that the Church may go on in the way of truth and righteousness for the sake of our young Brothers and Sisters. May they keep it pure. The feet washing service cleanses and makes us fit to partake of the emblems of the body and blood of Jesus. "I will be your God and ye shall be my people."

Sunday P.M.

Opening: Bro. Ray Reed. Text: I Cor. 12:1-31.

First Speaker: Bro. William Carpenter. Text: II Pet. 1:1-8, I Thess. 3:11-13.

Abound means to be in abundance, to be rich, to overflow in waves. The world abounded in sin in Noah's time. How about today? Rom. 5:20.

If we had nothing to hope for how empty our lives would be. Philip. 1:9; 4:12; Rom. 15:13; II Cor. 8:2, 9:1-11.

Love brings happiness but it may also bring sorrow. Jesus bore grief in the garden for our sins also pain and death on the cross because of His love for humanity. I Cor. 15:58; II Thess. 1:3; I Thess. 4:1.

Second Speaker: Bro. David Ebling. Text: Luke 21:20-36. Subject: Signs of the Times.

Today news is flashed around the world. Most of it is bad. Only the Bible brings good news. We are living in the space and atomic age and the signs of His time are all around us.

Closing: Bro. Harry Gunderman.

A beautiful flower was planted in an old rusty bucket. It was beautiful and the bucket did not hinder its growth. We are the old rusty bucket and Christ dwelling in us is the flower.

Ecc. 8:8. God is still on the throne and is the same yesterday today and forever.

Sunday Evening

Song: "The Half has Never yet Been Told."

We have a Bible and let's take it home with us in our hearts.

Opening: Bro. Dale Jamison. Text: Psalms 23.

Conference is a mountain top experience. Before we reach the top of the mountain there is a valley.

First Speaker: Bro. Melvin Roesch. Text: Rev. 3:5.

Each Church had a promise if they overcame. Only two Churches were not asked to repent. "Where there is no vision, the people perish." When Abraham offered his son he had already sacrificed him in his heart. We need to tell God "I am through, You take over."

I Cor. 15:58. "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord." Then let us cast all our care at the foot of Jesus. Rom. 8:35-39 gives us some precious promises that nothing can separate us from the love of Jesus.

Second Speaker: Bro. Fred Pifer. Text: Acts 26:1-18.

He created us for a purpose. If we haven't made His purpose, our purpose; there will be an accident. Commit thy way unto Him.

His sermon was especially for the young people. We were much impressed by the large number of young people occupying the front seats.

Closing: Bro. Harley Flory.

We underestimate the power of Satan. We all have a place to fill.

Monday Morning

Devotions: Bro. Ora Skiles. Text: Luke 18:10-13.

We are the children of our Heavenly Father and He knows how to give good gifts. Let us humble ourselves as did the publican.

Monday A.M.

Opening: Bro. Milton Cook. Text: I Cor. 14:7-10.

What is our life going to be when we go home? Will the trumpet call from the Conference be clear?

First Speaker: Bro. Daniel Skiles. Text: Eph. 4:8-16.

We need to talk to God and to love Him with our whole heart and soul. Let us not have spiritual indigestion.

Closing: Bro. Paul Byfield. Text: II Tim. 3.

Monday P.M.

Opening: Bro. Rudy Cover. Text: Psalms 39:1-9.

We come to the crossroads in our lives. We must make a choice. When we find God's will, we have peace. God does not reveal His way all at once. We may not know the way but we know the leader. We know not what the morrow holds but we know who holds tomorrow in His Hands.

First Speaker: Bro. Alvin Chupp.

Let's go to the doctor. It is just as necessary that our spiritual life be well as it is for our physical life to be free from ailments.

The prescription:

Church attendance. Heb. 10:25.

Envy. Psalms 37:1; Pro. 23:17; I Cor. 13:4; Gal. 5:26.

Lust of the eyes. Matt. 5:27-29; Romans 13:14.

Judge not. Rom. 14:4; I Cor. 4:5; James 4:12.

Our tongue. Eph. 4:25; James 3:6; James 4:11; I Peter 2:1.

Thoughts. Psalms 119:59; Romans 12:3; Philip. 4:8.

Anger. Psalms 37:8; Prov. 15:1; Prov. 16:32; Matt. 5:22.

Wisdom. James 1:5; Prov. 9:10-11

Worldly Goods. Psalms 12:5; Isa. 25:4; James 2:5.

Our Guarantee. John 14:1.

Remarks by Bro. Paul Byfield: When silverware is not used it turns dark. The same is true of the Bible. Let us give it daily use.

Second Speaker: Bro. David Kegerreis. Text: Luke 23:27-45; especially verse 33. Subject: What does Calvary mean to you?

Life is in the blood. Christ's blood brings us eternal life. The world hasn't found the joy unspeakable that comes from Calvary so they seek pleasure in the ball games, movies, television and other things the world offers for pleasure. He took away our sins and left us white as snow.

He intercedes for you and me if we wish Him to.

Romans 10:10. We must confess our love for Him. Unless we accept this Christ there is no hope. Life is very short. If we come under the blood we shall receive life. Prevention is better than a cure. The BIBLE is our healthfood store. When did you take your last spiritual blood test. Let us crucify ourselves daily.

Monday Evening

Opening: Bro. Paul Myers. Text: Col. 1:16; Psalms 110:1-3.

We are creatures of choice. There are two ways. One leads up, the other down.

First Speaker: Bro. Hayes Reed. Text: Luke 23:32-38, especially verse 33.

We will never be able to realize the greatness of Christ's sacrifice until we meet Him.

Gen. 3:21. Satan was a wonderful salesman but he is a liar. No bridge was ever long enough to bridge the distance between God and man until Calvary. Life is in the blood. God killed an animal and shed blood in order to cover Adam and Eve after their sin. It is not our works that saves us but God's provision. Adam and Eve's aprons of fig leaves did not suffice, it took God's sacrifice of blood.

Gen. 4:4. It took the blood sacrifice of Abel to be acceptable in God's sight.

Gen. 22. When Abraham took Isaac to the mountain to sacrifice him it took the blood of the ram to fulfill God's wishes.

John 3:16; I Peter 2:22-24; I Peter 1:18-20. Remember there is a Calvary and keep our eyes upon it.

Second Speaker: Bro. William Bashor. Text: I Thess. 5:5-6; Matt. 24:38-42. Subject: Watch What?

Our words. Pro. 25:11.

Our walk. Psalms 1:1.

Our talents. Matt. 25:24-25.

Our tongue. James 3:5-8.

Our thoughts. Pro. 23:7; I Cor. 10:12.

Our company. I Cor. 5:11; II Thess. 3:14.

Our habits. We make our habits then our habits make us.

Our character. II Tim. 4:1-8; Heb. 13:15.

Watch and pray that ye enter not into temptation. When God speaks man ought to listen.

Closing: Bro. David Ebling.

Is the blood applied? If not we are doomed to destruction.

Tuesday Morning

Devotions: Bro. George Replogle.

Songs: "Jesus Paid it all," "Near to the Heart of God."

We can reject God or we can accept Him and have peace.

Psalms 103:1-4. Benefit is an act of kindness. God could have sent wrath on the children of Israel.

Rom. 8:1. Benefit is happiness. No improvement of man is equal to the improvement in our life when God takes over.

Tuesday A.M.

Opening: Bro. Daniel Skiles. Text: Psalms 150:1-6.

Fallen humanity has trouble praising God. Singing is one way of praising Him.

Bible Study: Teacher: Bro. Martin Meyers. Text: I Peter 2:9-12.

The Church is a called out people. Peculiar means a purchased people. We must possess on the inside what we profess by our clothes. We are citizens of Heaven. A Christian is the only Bible some people read.

Speaker: Bro. Rudy Cover. Text: Luke 8:37-40.

The storm at sea and the man possessed with devils. He sat at the feet of Jesus. Mary sat at the feet of Jesus. Can you imagine the joy it brought Mary to be so near to Jesus.

If we had a million dollars given to us we would be very much excited. Christ has given us more than the whole world. We have it too easy. Persecution brings souls to Christ. We feel things are easy so we don't need God's help. If we get interested in God's things we won't have time for the things of this world. We must be as dependent on God as a little child is dependent on his parents.

John 11:1-43. When Lazarus died, Mary and Martha realized Jesus could have healed him but Jesus wanted to give His disciples another sign of His power. When Christ is first in our life all else is secondary. If we welcome Christ He will come into our hearts. Sometimes we let minor ailments keep us from the house of worship when if we went we would feel better.

Closing: Bro. David Kegerreis.

Zaccheus, small of stature, climbed into a sycamore tree in order to see Jesus. His efforts brought him in close contact with Jesus because Jesus called him down and went home with him.

Tuesday P.M.

Opening: Bro. Daniel Skiles. Text: Psalms 119:97-106.

First Speaker: Bro. Milton Cook. Text: Matt. 10:34-39. Subject: The Division of Decision.

We all desire to get along with each other. Nations desire peace. Christians get along with each other because they have God's peace in their hearts. In the beginning God divided the day from the night and the water from the dry land. He also divided the Church from the world. The Christian is to be the lighthouse of the world. The division between God and the world is an everlasting division. John 3:16 gives us the difference between everlasting life and everlasting destruction. What kind of a life will your Christian life be? Will it be transformed in Christ? Half of the ten virgins lacked oil by their own choice.

Second Speaker: Bro. Paul Byfield. Text: Matt. 28:19; John 14:17. Subject: The Inspiration of the Holy Ghost.

If we leave out the Holy Ghost we can not make our way in the Christian life. If the children of Israel needed a whipping, God gave them one; but He could also commend. God gives us His message through the Holy Spirit. When we pray we should wait for God's answer. Peter's life was different after he received the Holy Ghost at Jerusalem. Satan is always at our crossroads. John 16:8-13. As long as the Holy Spirit dwells within we will be a rose fit for the Master's bouquet. Treat the Holy Spirit as a person. I Cor. 6:19-20. How many breaths can we lose and live? Just as important is our life with the Holy Spirit.

Tuesday Evening

Opening: Bro. Clyde Schultz. Text: Psalms 100.

Sheep know their Shepherd's voice and will not follow strangers. Let us be careful.

Speaker: Bro. Dale Jamison. Text: II Tim. 3. Subject: Last Days.

Let us look beyond our fears. When we were in school we looked forward to the last day. May it be the same in our lives. May the last day of our life only mean happiness throughout eternity. I am concerned about your soul and the fact that many things may prevent your eternal

happiness. Today they say Paul was just an old bachelor, he didn't know what he was talking about. Many preachers don't even open their Bible when bringing their message.

Apostasy is a falling away and the anti-christ will slip in.

Matt. 10:20. We live under fears. Isa. 8:11-13. We are afraid of people so we forget to be afraid of God.

Matt. 10:16-17. America is falling apart at the seams because we have forgotten our fear of God. In our materialism we have forgotten that we need God. When America loses its salt, watch out. Why do people go to Church? Is it to be built up from God's word or just to be entertained. How many of us are ready to die tonight?

Closing: Bro. William Carpenter. Text: Acts 8:1-4. Are you a missionary?

Wednesday Morning

The opening songs brought comfort to our hearts as the closing day of Conference opened. "Under His Wings I am Safely Abiding."

Devotions: Bro. Frank Shaffer. Text: Psalms 12; 68:1; Malachi 4:1-2. Not one of our sins will be remembered.

Sister Ruth Drake

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CHILDREN'S PAGE

"LET MY PEOPLE GO"

Exodus 5:1-23; 6:1-8

The children of Israel were slaves in Egypt. They made brick to build great temples and monuments for the Egyptians. The Egyptians thought everything was just like they wanted it. They had slaves by the thousands to do all their work, while they did nothing but enjoyed themselves. But God had a surprise for Egypt. The king of Egypt was called, "Pharaoh," and the people worshipped him as their God. They also worshipped many gods; idols made in the image of a snake, a frog, a bull, or any other animal they chose to worship. This was displeasing to the Lord God of Israel. God told Moses for him and his brother Aaron to tell Pharaoh to let the Israelites, or Hebrews, as the Egyptians called them, go into the wilderness to hold a feast to their God. And Pharaoh said, "Who is the Lord that I should obey his voice to let Israel go? I know not the Lord, neither will I let Israel go." Pharaoh commanded his taskmasters to make the Hebrews gather their own straw to make brick. The

Egyptians had given them straw before. Now they had to get their own and yet Pharaoh demanded that they produce just as many bricks. Pharaoh thought that by giving them more work to do they wouldn't have time to think about their God.

The children of Israel complained to Pharaoh but he just said they were idle and needed more work to do. Then the leaders of Israel came to Moses and Aaron. They blamed them for causing all their trouble. What do you think Moses did? He did just what you and I should do when we are in trouble. He prayed to God about it. God answered Moses and said, "I am the Lord, and I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians. And I will take you to me for a people, and I will be to you a God: and ye shall know I am the Lord your God, which bringeth you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians."

God's promises are sure. Sometimes it seems like God has forgotten us, but God never forgets. When the time comes, God will deliver and bless His people. It seemed to the children of Israel that God had surely forgotten them. But they were about to receive the greatest deliverance from bondage that the world had ever known. Although Pharaoh was the most powerful ruler in the world, he was as nothing compared to the power of God. Jesus died that He could deliver us from the slavery of sin. If you are a child of God, you will never forget what Jesus has done for you.

Brother Rudy Cover

THE BARROOM AS A BANK

You deposit:

Your money	and lose it;
Your character	and lose it;
Your manly independence	and lose it;
Your home comfort	and lose it;
Your self-control	and lose it;
Your children's happiness	and lose it;
Your own soul	and lose it.



The devil has at least one good quality, that he will flee if we resist him. Though cowardly in him, it is safety for us. - Edwards.

NEWS ITEMS

PLEASANT RIDGE, OHIO

The Pleasant Ridge Congregation (the Lord willing) plans to hold our revival meetings August 27th, closing with Communion meetings. Bro. William Bashor has consented to be our evangelist.

The Harvest Meeting, Nov. 30th, with evening services the 28th and 29th of November. Bro. Edward Johnson is to be our speaker.

We invite one and all to come and enjoy these services with us.

Sister Ruth Kleinhenn, Cor.

SWALLOW FALLS, MARYLAND

The Swallow Falls Congregation plans to hold their revival, August 17 to 24, with Bro. Jack Snyder of Lititz Congregation as evangelist.

Love Feast services August 23 beginning 2:30 P.M.

Your prayers and presence are solicited.

Sister Ruth M. Snyder, Cor.

WAYNESBORO, PENNSYLVANIA

The Lord willing, Elder Melvin Roesch of West Unity, Ohio, will hold Revival Meetings at the Waynesboro Congregation starting September 1st to September 14, 1975. Come and worship with us if you can.

Our Spring Love Feast was May 4 with a good attendance. Ministers present throughout the day were, Joshua Rice, Allen Eberly, Virgil Leatherman, Emmert Shelly, Jr., Howard Surbey, Jacob Ness, Carl Broadwater and Eldon Mallow. Elder Howard Surbey officiated at the evening services.

Sister Elizabeth Wisler, Cor.

SOUTH FULTON, ILLINOIS

We, the South Fulton Congregation, have decided to postpone our fall Love Feast another year. There are only a few Sisters in our Congregation, no Brother in our midst to help with responsibilities, and no one is very strong in body. It is true the visitors would help while here, but the burden is on just a few. The Lord willing we still look forward to a Love Feast in the future.

As of now we Sisters, a few friends and neighbors try to meet most every Sunday. We have Sunday School, prayer and Bible reading and we believe each one receives a blessing for the efforts they put forth. Although these short services exhaust some of us in body, it is a blessed privilege.

Can any of you imagine only Sisters in your group? No Brother at all. The Lord knows all things and we thank you for prayers and letters in our behalf and may we all keep faithful, and close to Him. Our little group is pleased to have visitors come in any time and you will receive a blessing.

Sister Martha I. Harman, Cor.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS

FOR SEPTEMBER

Sept. 7 - Love in Action. I Cor. 13:1-13

Sept. 14 - Teaching by the Spirit Preferred. I Cor. 14:1-40

Sept. 21 - "If Christ be not Raised Your Faith is Vain." I Cor. 15:1-19

Sept. 28 - "There is a Natural Body and There is a Spiritual Body."
I Cor. 15:20-58

QUESTIONS:

- (1) Why is love greater than faith and hope? - I Cor. 13:8, 10
- (2) What is better than speaking in an unknown tongue? - I Cor. 14:3-5
- (3) If God is not the Author of confusion, what is He the Author of? -
I Cor. 14:33
- (4) When did Paul see the Lord? - I Cor. 15:8; Acts 9:4
- (5) How are the dead raised up? - I Cor. 15:35; 15:57



MANY-SIDEDNESS - I tell you that Jesus challenges the attention of this world by His many-sidedness. He meets the needs of all classes and conditions of men. As deep answereth unto deep, so does He respond to the movings of each soul of man. Call the roll of the world's workers and ask, "What think ye of Christ?" Their answers amaze us! To the artist, He is the One altogether lovely. To the architect, He is the Chief Corner Stone. To the astronomer, He is the Sun of Righteousness. To the baker, He is the living Bread. To the biologist, He is the Life. To the builder, He is the Sure Foundation. To the carpenter, He is the Door. To the doctor, He is the Great Physician. To the educator, He is the Great Teacher. To the farmer, He is the Sower. To the florist, He is the Rose of Sharon. To the geologist, He is the Rock of Ages. To the philanthropist, He is the Unspeakable Gift. To the servant, He is the Good Master. What is He to you!

DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR SEPTEMBER

Memory Verse, Jer. 10:19

O Lord, my strength, and my fortress, and my refuge in the day of affliction, the Gentiles shall come unto thee from the ends of the earth, and shall say, Surely our fathers have inherited lies, vanity, and things wherein there is no profit.

Mon. 1 - Jer. 13:1-27

Tues. 2 - Jer. 16:1-21

Wed. 3 - Jer. 17:1-27

Thurs. 4 - Jer. 18:1-23

Fri. 5 - Jer. 21:1-14

Sat. 6 - Jer. 23:1-35

Memory Verse, Jer. 18:14

Will a man leave the snow of Lebanon which cometh from the rock of the field? or shall the cold flowing waters that come from another place be forsaken?

Sun. 7 - Jer. 25:1-17

Mon. 8 - Jer. 26:1-24

Tues. 9 - Jer. 27:1-22

Wed. 10 - Jer. 28:1-17

Thurs. 11 - Jer. 30:1-24

Fri. 12 - Jer. 31:1-21

Sat. 13 - Jer. 31:22-40

Memory Verse, Jer. 23:5

Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will raise unto David a righteous branch, and a king shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth.

Sun. 14 - Jer. 32:1-25

Mon. 15 - Jer. 32:26-44

Tues. 16 - Jer. 33:1-26

Wed. 17 - Jer. 35:1-19

Thurs. 18 - Jer. 36:1-32

Fri. 19 - Jer. 37:1-21

Sat. 20 - Jer. 40:1-16

Memory Verse, Jer. 25:3

From the thirteenth year of Josiah the son of Amon king of Judah, even unto this day, that is the three and twentieth year, the word of the Lord hath come unto me, and I have spoken unto you, rising early and speaking; but ye have not hearkened.

Sun. 21 - Jer. 41:1-18

Mon. 22 - Jer. 42:1-22

Tues. 23 - Jer. 50:1-20

Wed. 24 - Jer. 50:21-46

Thurs. 25 - Jer. 51:1-33

Fri. 26 - Jer. 51:34-64

Sat. 27 - Lam. 1:1-22

Memory Verse, Jer. 26:2

Thus saith the Lord; Stand in the court of the Lord in the court of the Lord's house, and speak unto all the cities of Judah, which come to worship in the Lord's house, all the words that I command thee to speak unto them; diminish not a word:

Sun. 28 - Lam. 3:1-36

Mon. 29 - Lam. 3:37-66

Tues. 30 - Lam. 4:1-22

Memory Verses, Jer. 31:9

They shall come with weeping, and with supplications will I lead them; I will cause them to walk by the rivers of waters in a straight way, wherein they shall not stumble; for I am a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.

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BIBLE MONITOR

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NO. 17

"For the faith once for all delivered to the saints."

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and
Scriptural in practice.

OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all
the world and preach the gospel.

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

MY SOUL THIRSTETH FOR GOD

I thirst, but not as once I did,
The vain delights of earth to share,
Thy wounds, EMMANUEL, all forbid
That I should seek my pleasures there.

It was the sight of Thy dear cross,
First wean'd my soul from earthly things;
And taught me to esteem as dross
The mirth of fools, and pomp of kings.

I want that grace that springs from Thee,
That quickens all things where it flows;
And makes a wretched thorn like me,
Bloom as the myrtle, or the rose.

Dear fountain of delight unknown!
No longer sink below the brim,
But overflow, and pour me down
A living and life-giving stream!

For sure, of all the plants that share
The notice of Thy Father's eye,
None proves less grateful to His care,
Or yields Him meaner fruit than I.

- William Cowper

THE GOLDEN RULE

Recently the United States was faced with the possibility of a strike by the mail carriers. This posed a threat of great inconvenience to businesses, families and publications, like the Bible Monitor; indeed nearly everyone in the country. This was but one of many threatened or actual strikes in the past few months. There have been strikes by teachers, policemen, firemen, sanitation workers, state employees, nurses and doctors. Just a few years ago strikes by "public servants" would have been unbelievable, but now these strikes are a part of our history. They have caused inconvenience and danger for the people living where these strikes occurred.

This disregard for the rights, livelihood and convenience of hundreds and thousands of other people should warn the Christian to have no part in unionism. The Christian is to meet the problems and injustices of this world with love. Love is not demonstrated in the use of force, whether physical or financial, to gain the material ends desired; especially, when others are harmed in the fulfillment of our wishes.

The Christian is instructed by His Lord and Saviour to live by the Golden Rule. "And as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise." Luke 6:31. We may condemn the unions and other organizations of the world for their blantant self-interest; but this is to be expected of the unconverted. Are you living by the world's rules or by the Saviour's Golden Rule? Every area of your life could and should be governed by the desire to give to others as you would wish to receive.

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Our attitude toward others often shows something less than diligent application of the Golden Rule. We may exclaim, "Well, I'm as good as he is" but do we remember to turn it around and say, "He is as good as I am?" When criticizing the faults of others, it would be good if we would remember we all have the common faults, shortcomings and sins of mankind. Have you applied the Golden Rule at your job, in your community, with your family as well as in your Church?

We can apply the Golden Rule to our job. It requires that we give our best to our employer, even a little extra. Just as we expect those working for us to give their best. If we are a supervisor we should consider how we would like to be treated when dealing with those working for us. At work we can show consideration by cleaning our work area so the next shift finds an area, like we would expect and hope for when we report to work. Following the rules, especially safety rules, also shows thoughtfulness, for one man's carelessness may endanger many others.

Among our neighbors and friends we have many opportunities to use the Master's Golden Rule. The farmer in trading work can give his best efforts to helping his neighbor. There are ever the tragedies of the community that call for our help. The neighbor who was burned out, the friend in the hospital and the family without a breadwinner, all call upon us for time, money and help; the same kind of help we would appreciate if we were in the same situation.

Many times our friends and fellow workers receive kindlier attention than our own family. We take our loved ones for granted; but should not our dear ones be treated according to the Golden Rule too? They see us when we are tired, angry, and discouraged-when we may be less loving.

Should we not in patience and self-restraint treat them as we expect them to treat us.

If the Golden Rule is not applied in our Church relationship, our religion is vain. The same Saviour, who died for the Church, gave us the Golden Rule to live by. Not only should this rule govern us in council meetings but also in the week-to-week activities of the congregation. Our promptness, our quietness, our attentiveness, all are small ways of applying the words of our Saviour when we go to Church.

One of the rapidly disappearing commodities in American life today is common courtesy. The lack of feeling for others' sensitivities is very evident. It should never be laid to the Christian's charge that he lacked common courtesy - for lack shows a disregard for the Golden Rule. This common courtesy is not the "manners" written of in etiquette books but the love and concern for others written of in God's Book.

You and I, as God's Children, need to be living the Golden Rule. It is needful in every area of our life. Which rule are you following - the world's or God's?

THE GIFTS OF GOD

We read in John 3:16, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." This everlasting and eternal life in heaven above is the greatest gift ever given. How great the love of God to us! "Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift." (II Cor. 9:15)

The written Word of God is another spiritual gift given to us by God. His precious Word will never be destroyed though some have tried and will continue to try to do away with it. In St. Matt. 24:35 Christ hath said, "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away." The Word has been with us since the beginning. "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." (St. John 1:1) The Apostle Paul gave us a complete and thorough description of the Word of God in Heb. 4:12. "For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart." This indeed explains the powerfulness of this great gift.

We are exhorted to be doers of the Word. (James 1:22) The Holy Scriptures are able to make us wise unto salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. (II Tim. 3:15) The Apostle Paul said in II Tim. 3:16 that "all scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness. The Word contains the complete way of salvation.

Other spiritual gifts are the gifts of prophecy, of faith, of wisdom, of grace, of knowledge of good and evil, and of answering of prayers.

God has blessed us with many temporal gifts. The fowls of the air, the beasts of the land, the fish of the waters, all the herbs and plants of the fields, sunshine, rain, fruitful seasons, shelter, food, clothing, strength, and good health are only a few.

May we be more thankful and more considerate as we walk through this life from day to day and realize that "every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning." (James 1:17)

Sister Karen E. Heisey
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A River finds liberty to flow only between its banks. Without the banks it would become a stagnant pool. Men and women also need restrictions within which their lives may flow in usefulness and service.

WE DON'T MIND GIVING-OR DO WE?

A minister in a Southern mountain area related how these people gave to God, even though they were poor. They set aside some land, usually an acre of their best farmland. Whatever it produced was given for the Lord's work; it was called "God's Acre." Remember - they set aside their best; all it produced was for God, none of it for the owner.

If you chose an acre to set aside for God, which would you choose? Your best land, or an acre not so productive? Once chosen, how would you take care of it? Would you give it special attention, or would you tend to your own first and let His wait? Perhaps the weeds would take over and God wouldn't get much.

There are many ways of giving to God, be it substance or personal service. It could be setting aside an acre of good farmland. It could be a specific amount of income from other sources. It could be a lifetime devoted to special field of Christian service such as mission work. But before any of this can be accepted, you must give Him your heart, and present your body as a living sacrifice. "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, which is your reasonable service." Romans 12:1. This must be first, it is best and acceptable to God. And, it is reasonable for you to give yourself.

Just as the Old Testament sacrifices had to be the best, so must we give our best - ourselves. You don't mind giving yourself, or do you? We are to honor God with our substance but that will not relieve us of the responsibility of giving ourselves. The people who set aside an acre for God had already committed their lives to Him. Therefore their substance could be accepted.

If someone gives us something, and we know it isn't given willingly, we don't want it. God loves a cheerful giver, just as much as we do. After you have given God your heart and life, whatever you give of your substance should be given because you really want to. "For if there be first a willing mind, it is accepted according to that a man hath, and not according to that he hath not." II Cor. 8:12. We are not to give grudgingly or of necessity, but willingly. (II Cor. 9:7)

The way you give will determine the kind of blessing you receive. The Pharisees did good works to be seen of men, and that was their reward. God does not reward that sort of giving. Alms done in secret will be rewarded openly by God. If you give liberally, you will be blessed liberally. "For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again." Luke 6:38. We can't outgive God, so we need not be afraid that we will run out of something to give.

Our motive in giving, whether in service or substance, will be revealed in due time. If it is right, we will be blessed; if it is wrong, we'll be condemned. The Pharisees gave to receive honor of men, not

because they had compassion on those in need. Ananias and Sapphira gave because it was the thing to do, not because they really wanted to. It all looked good until God revealed their sin, and took their lives. The Samaritan gave help to the wounded man because he had compassion on him. He, too, could have passed by on the other side as the priest and Levite had done, but he chose to do his best for the man.

Why do you give? How do you give? You don't mind giving your best to God, or do you? God has always required our best, and if we give any less, it will be very hard to face Him at Judgment. He has given us His Best, for His Son, Jesus, died for us. Can we afford to give any less than our best to Him? It is more blessed to give than to receive, so give God your best without reservation. Then He won't mind giving to you.

Sister Eileen Broadwater

ANSWERED PRAYERS

Part 21

In Luke 18:1 we read, "And he (Jesus) spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint."

Jesus knew the value and power of prayer; He taught and urged the disciples to pray.

Recently I read a literal translation of Luke 11:9 which I like and am introducing it here to help us improve our prayer life. "And I say unto you, KEEP ON ASKING and it shall be given you, KEEP ON SEEKING and ye shall find; EVER CONTINUE KNOCKING and it shall be opened unto you." Sometimes it takes patient, fervent, relentless and persistent prayer to accomplish that which we are seeking.

We have a good example of that kind of prayer in the life of Bartimaeus, as recorded in Mark 10:46-52.

Jesus and his disciples were traveling from Jerusalem to Jericho, accompanied by a great number of people.

I believe this procession made a very interesting scene. Perhaps, some were in the group whom Jesus had healed. Perhaps, some he had fed. As they were journeying the highway, they came to a blind beggar, sitting by the roadside.

Perhaps he occupied this same position regularly. This road was a prominent road, and undoubtedly well traveled. He may have found it a good location to beg alms.

Also, he might have learned that Jesus was going to pass by. I believe the fame of Jesus being able to heal all manner of disease caused many

cripples and sufferers to position themselves so Jesus would see them.

Whatever cause may have brought this blind man to this location, at this particular time, he surely was blessed for being there.

As this large procession approached the blind man, he learned that Jesus was in the group. Immediately blind Bartimaeus cried out saying, "Jesus, thou son of David, have mercy on me." We can consider this appeal to Jesus as a prayer.

The Word says many charged him to hold his peace. Evidently he really prayed unto Jesus. He paid no attention to the people, but cried out the more, "Thou son of David, have mercy on me."

Jesus heard the blind man's prayer. Evidently the crowd was so large that Bartimaeus was not near Jesus. Jesus, upon hearing the prayer, stopped, even stood still. Jesus asked that Bartimaeus be called to Him and that this message be given him, "Be of good comfort, rise, Jesus calleth thee."

Here we have evidence that Bartimaeus' KEEP ON ASKING and SEEKING and EVER CONTINUING KNOCKING, calling in prayer, the way was opened for him to be healed. His persistent calling for Jesus was answered by Jesus calling for him.

When he received the call from Jesus he answered, also the Word says, "He cast away his garments, arose, and came to Jesus." If we expect to have Jesus answer our call in prayer through and to Him, we should answer His call to us.

Using my own words, Jesus asked Bartimaeus why he had called Him, what he wanted and what He could do for him.

Bartimaeus was not slow in answering. He said, "Lord, that I might receive my sight."

"And Jesus said unto him, Go thy way; thy faith hath made thee whole. And immediately he received his sight, and FOLLOWED JESUS IN THE WAY." Mark 10:52.

Here is a firm example of persisting in prayer, of being heard, and of having your prayer answered.

Jesus might have healed him if Bartimaeus prayed one time only. However, his fervent and relentless praying brought the desired results.

This is proof that God does not tire of our oft coming and that our prayers are heard and that they are answered.

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Doubt is hell in the human soul. - Gasparin.

JESUS

One is made to wonder what it was like in and around Jerusalem after Jesus was placed in the sepulchre. Some must have thought all was lost. The One they had loved so dearly had been crucified and buried. To others, the cross and sepulchre must have meant victory; or did it? Were they real sure this was the end of this man they called Jesus?

We learn from Matt. 27:62-66, "Now the next day, that followed the day of the preparation, the chief priests and Pharisees came together unto Pilate, saying, Sir, we remember that that deceiver said, while he was yet alive, After three days I will rise again. Command therefore that the sepulchre be made sure until the third day, lest his disciples come by night, and steal him away, and say unto the people, He is risen from the dead: so the last error shall be worse than the first. Pilate said unto them, Ye have a watch: go your way, make it as sure as ye can. So they went, and made the sepulchre sure, sealing the stone, and setting a watch." They made it as sure as they knew how or were able. Remember, Jesus told Martha "I am the resurrection." So there wasn't anything that man could have done to keep Jesus in the sepulchre.

The third day was nearing and when it came; He came forth. At what time or how, we know not. But early in the morning of the first day of the week, "came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre. And, behold, there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it. His countenance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow: And for fear of him the keepers did shake, and became as dead men. And the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified. He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay. And go quickly, and tell his disciples that he is risen from the dead; and, behold, he goeth before you into Galilee; there shall ye see him: lo, I have told you." Matt. 28:1B-7. In John 20 we find, "Then she runneth, and cometh to Simon Peter, and the other disciple," and told them what had happened. So they ran both together: and one did outrun the other, and came first to the sepulchre. But they found no Jesus. Not knowing the scripture, that he must rise again from the dead, they left the empty tomb and went home.

Many a person has gone their own way because they do not understand the meaning of the resurrection. Also because of unbelief, many will not accept that it did happen. What if Jesus would have gone from the sepulchre to his heavenly Father without making an appearance? But thanks be unto God, that He did show Himself to be alive.

"Then the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear

of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you. And when he had so said, he shewed unto them his hands and his side. Then were the disciples glad, when they saw the Lord." John 20:19-20. But, Thomas was not with them at this meeting. The other disciples said unto him, "We have seen the Lord." This, Thomas could not accept, for he said, "Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe." So unbelieving would we have been, if Jesus hadn't shown Himself before He went to the Father. Well, eight days later the disciples were within, and this time Thomas was with them: then came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, "Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side; and be not faithless, but believing, and Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God." John 20:27-28.

This is for us, that we might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; that He was hung on the cross, and He did die, and He was buried. But He has risen! This is why He made Himself known, not only to the disciples but to many more that we might believe in the resurrection, and the power of the resurrection. For if there had been no resurrection, if Christ had not risen, then our faith would be in vain. But now, by faith in the risen Christ, we shall have life after death - life eternal.

Some of Jesus' last words were words of instruction "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost; Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you; and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world." Matt. 28:19-20. "And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. And ye are witnesses of these things." Luke 24:46-48.

"And he led them out as far as to Bethany, and he lifted up his hands, and blessed them. And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven," "and a cloud received him out of their sight." Then in Acts 1:10-11 we read, "And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven." This same Jesus, is coming again. Are you ready to meet Him?

Remember, while He was still here, He said, "In my Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again,

and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also." John 14:2-3.

In our first article on Jesus, we began it with these words, "Jesus is our Saviour. Do you know Him?" And we close this thirteenth hoping, you know Him better.

Brother H. Edward Johnson

CHILDREN'S PAGE

A HARD-HEARTED MAN

Exodus 7:1-25

Do you know what it means to be hard-hearted? It means to be entirely selfish - to want your own way even if it causes suffering for others.

Pharaoh did not care whether the children of Israel lived or died. He gave them hard work to do and had slave-drivers to whip anyone who slowed down. Pharaoh didn't know what love meant; nor did he care.

God told Moses to go again to Pharaoh and tell him to send the children of Israel out of Egypt. God also said that Pharaoh wouldn't let them go. God knows everything. He knows what we think and He knew exactly what Pharaoh would do. God said Pharaoh would ask Moses and Aaron to do a miracle, then Aaron should cast his rod before Pharaoh and it would become a snake. Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh, he did just what God said he would do. After he had seen the rod become a snake, he called for his magicians and they threw down their rods and they became snakes too, or at least that is what it looked like. Then a strange thing happened; the snake that had been Moses and Aaron's rod swallowed up all of the magician's snakes. And still, Pharaoh wouldn't let the people go.

So God told Moses to tell Aaron to stretch out his rod over the streams of water, upon the rivers, the pools and ponds of Egypt. Moses and Aaron did so and the water was turned into blood. The water that was in jars and buckets, turned to blood. The fish in the river died and smelled something awful. The magicians of Pharaoh also caused water to become blood but this didn't help at all. The people of Egypt wanted good, clear, fresh, clean water to drink and this the magicians could not give them. Finally the Egyptians digged near the river for water, for they could not drink of the river. The plague of blood lasted seven days and yet Pharaoh would not obey God.

Pharaoh was, surely, a hard-hearted man, if there ever was one. Do you know what he needed? He needed the love of God in his heart, just like you and I. Without God's love, we will become selfish and hard-hearted: not caring for others, just trying to please ourselves. God doesn't want us to be hard-hearted. He wants us to have love in our hearts so we can do good to others and help those that are weak and poor. God wants us to be like Jesus. "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

Brother Rudy Cover

PROPHECY AND FULFILLMENT

Prophecy: Psm. 109:8, Let his days be few; and let another take his office.

Fulfillment: Acts 1:16-17, Men and brethren, this scripture must needs have been fulfilled, which the Holy Ghost by the mouth of David spake before concerning Judas, which was guide to them that took Jesus. For he was numbered with us, and had obtained part of this ministry.

Prophecy: Joel 2:28-32, And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions: And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit. And I will shew wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood and fire, and pillars of smoke. The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before that great and terrible day of the Lord come. And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be delivered: for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the Lord hath said, and in the remnant whom the Lord shall call.

Fulfillment: Acts 2:16-21, But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel; And it shall come to pass in the last days, (age) saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams; And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy; And I will shew wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapour of smoke; The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before that great and notable day of the Lord come; And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.

Prophecy: Psm. 16:8-10, I have set the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved. Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoiceth; my flesh also shall rest in hope. For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.

Fulfillment: Acts 2:25-27, For David speaketh concerning Him, I foresaw the Lord always before my face, for he is on my right hand, that I should not be moved; Therefore did my heart rejoice, and my tongue was glad; moreover also my flesh shall rest in hope; Because thou wilt not leave my soul in hell, neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.

Prophecy: II Sam. 7:12-13, And when thy days be fulfilled, and thou shalt sleep with thy fathers, I will set up thy seed after thee, which shall proceed out of thy bowels, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build an house for my name, and I will stablish the throne of his kingdom for ever.

Fulfillment: Acts 2:30-33, Therefore being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him, that of the fruit of his loins, according to the flesh, he would raise up Christ to sit on his throne; He seeing this before spake of the resurrection of Christ, that his soul was not left in hell, neither his flesh did see corruption. This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses. Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, he hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear.

Prophecy: Psm. 110:1-2, The Lord said unto my Lord, sit thou on my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool. The Lord shall send the rod of thy strength out of Zion; rule thou in the midst of thine enemies.

Fulfillment: Acts 2:34-35, For David is not ascended into the heavens; but he saith himself, The Lord said unto my Lord, sit thou on my right hand, Until I make thy foes thy footstool.

Prophecy: Psm. 22:1, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? why art thou so far from helping me, and from the words of my roaring? Isa: 50:6, I gave my back to the smiters, and my cheeks to them that plucked off the hair; I hid not my face from shame and spitting.

Fulfillment: Acts 3:18, But those things, which God before had shewed by the mouth of all his prophets, that Christ should suffer, he hath so fulfilled.

Prophecy: Deut. 18:15, The Lord thy God will raise up unto thee a Prophet from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, like unto me; unto him ye shall hearken;

Fulfillment: Acts 3:22, For Moses truly said unto the fathers, A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear in all things whatsoever he shall say unto you.

Acts 3:24, Yea, and all the prophets from Samuel and those that follow after, as many as have spoken, have likewise foretold of these days.

Here Peter makes the statement that all the prophets from Samuel have foretold of these things that have come to pass in Christ. So it is necessary to be careful how we interpret these prophecies. How do we know that their prophecies which many are trying to say will come to pass when Christ comes the second time, have not already come to pass in His first coming?

Brother W. E. Bashor
867 Lorna Dr., Glen Ellen, Calif. 95442

A CHRISTIAN

What is a Christian? One who accepts the teaching of Christ and lives it.

We want to consider some of the attributes of a Christian.

They are Holy in character; "But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy." I Peter 1:15-16.

They live in Constant Purity; "Blessed are the pure in heart; for they shall see God." Matt. 5:8. "Abstain from all appearance of evil." I Thess. 5:22.

They Provide Honestly; "...Provide things honest in the sight of all men." Romans 12:17.

They are constant in their Prayer Life; "Pray without ceasing." I Thess. 5:17.

They are constant in Thanksgiving; "In every thing give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." I Thess. 5:18.

They are ready to give Testimony at all times; "...be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear." I Peter 3:15.

The Apostle Paul gave his testimony how he became a Christian, before King Agrippa. Acts 26:28, "Then Agrippa said unto Paul, Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian."

Felix and his wife Drusilla also sent for Paul and wanted to hear of his faith in Christ.

"And as he reasoned of righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come, Felix trembled, and answered, Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season, I will call for thee." Acts 24:25. How sad

when People do not accept the teachings of Christ.

A Christian lives a consistent Christian life; “. . . we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ.” Titus 2:12-13. What a blessed reward for those who live godly in Christ Jesus.

Woe be unto us if we do not live what we profess.

Humbly submitted,
Sister Sylvia Parker
5290 W. State Rte. 718, Troy, Ohio 45373

OBITUARY

ELLEN REED

Ellen Catherine Reed was born March 31, 1918, in Wood County, Ohio. She was the sixth child of Ota (Shideler) and Loring I. Moss. The Lord called her from this life June 22, 1975, at the age of fifty-seven years, two months and twenty-two days, following an extended illness of nearly six months.

Ellen gave her heart to the Lord early in life and served Him faithfully until her death as a devoted member of the Dunkard Brethren Church.

She was united in marriage to Ray Reed at Dallas Center, Iowa, on May 26, 1946. Their home was blessed with four children; one daughter and three sons. She ably supported her husband in the Ministry for nearly twenty-eight years, and lovingly and zealously cared for her household.

She is survived by her husband, Ray; her daughter and family, Marie and Jim Noecker, Jimmy, Mona, Ray and Cora Ellen of Hart, Michigan; her sons; Loren, Brogue, Pennsylvania; Larry and wife, Aletha; and Holland, Dallas Center, Iowa. Three brother: Edson, Las Animas, Colorado; Aaron, Springfield, Missouri; David, West Covina, California; three sisters; Mable Rupp, Bryan, Ohio; Mary Shuler and Elma Moss, Greenville, Ohio. Her step-mother, Viola Moss of New Madison, Ohio and her children, also many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Preceding her in death were her parents, two sisters; Ethel Moss and Grace Royer; and one brother, Paul.

Funeral services were held on Wednesday, June 25, 1975, at the Dallas Center Dunkard Brethren Church. Burial was in the Brethren Cemetery. The services were conducted by Elder Joseph Flora, Elder Dale Jamison, and Bro. Fred Pifer.

MOTHER

"From early morn 'til set of sun
Her tasks of love were never done;
She shared our hopes, our dreams, our plans;
Believed in us and understands.
And even when we were far apart
She kept our interests at heart.
Her life was a perfect symbol of
Enduring and unselfish love."

NEWS ITEMS

Ministerial List Changes

The new address of Elder Laverne Keeney is 818 Millway Road, Lititz, Pennsylvania 17543

The new address of Elder Roy J. Swihart is 17421 C. R. 14, Goshen, Indiana 46526.

Directory Information Change

The address of Sis. Hilda Strayer has been changed to Route 8 Box 176, Harrisonburg, Virginia 22801.

New Tracts

Brother W. E. Bashor has prepared two new tracts, "God's Means of Grace" and "Scriptural Baptism." These tracts have been approved by the Tract Examining Committee. Individuals or congregations that desire these tracts may obtain the desired number from:

W. E. Bashor
867 Lorna Drive
Glen Ellen, California 95442



It's a Fact!

A lot of Christians are like wheelbarrows - not good unless pushed.
Some are like kites - if you don't keep a string on them they fly away.
Some are like footballs - you can't tell which way they will bounce.
Some are like balloons - full of wind and ready to blow up.
Some are like neon lights - they keep going on and off.
Some are like a good watch - open face, pure gold, quietly busy and full of good works.

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Paul R. Myers
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BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LIII

SEPTEMBER 15, 1975

NO. 18

"For the faith once for all delivered to the saints."

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

Do you wish the world were better?
Let me tell you what to do!
Set a watch upon your actions,
Keep them always straight and true;
Rid your mind of selfish motives.
Let your thoughts be true and high;
You can make a little Eden
Of the sphere you occupy.

Do you wish the world were happy?
Then, remember day by day
Just to scatter seeds of kindness
As you pass along the way;
For the pleasure of the many
May be oft-times traced to one,
As the hand that plants the acorn
Shelters armies from the sun.

- Ella Wheeler Wilcox
Selected by Sister Emma W. Stauffer

KING SAUL

The life of King Saul offers a warning to us. The course of his life is a steady downward trek. His failures are yet common among mankind. Therefore, it is necessary for us to be alert lest we fail as he did.

When Saul was publicly chosen to be king over Israel, he was a pleasing young man. He was yet humble, shy and obedient. He had hidden himself among the stuff on the day of choosing; he had to be fetched to receive his crown. During the first few years of his reign, he remained this way. Unfortunately as the years passed so did his humility and obedient spirit.

Samuel had warned Israel when they wanted a king, like the nations around them, that he would make demands upon them. A king would take their children, their fields, their crops, their servants, their animals and their freedom. I Sam. 8:11-18. Saul began to think of these prerogatives of his office and acted accordingly. Instead of humility and obedience, now jealousy, pride and disobedience ruled in the heart of Saul. First, Saul grew impatient, taking upon himself the religious work of Samuel by offering the sacrifices because he was tired of waiting. Then, when sent to utterly destroy Amalek, he decided to save their king alive along with the best of the animals. Samuel reproved him for his disobedience - his pride in choosing to save alive what God wanted destroyed and his deceptiveness in blaming the people for his sin. Samuel reproved him with these inspired words ". . .to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams." I Sam. 15:22. It is well for us to remember these words as well as the example of Saul's ever-downward life.

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There is a parallel between the life of Saul and the life of many Christians. Many begin the Christian walk of life, like Saul, humble, shy and obedient. They are mindful of the price God paid for their sin-stained soul. They have a desire to do right and a willingness to do whatever they have promised. They are humble and willing to be instructed. But something happens to dislodge their first love - no longer do they have a willing ardor in serving God.

Perhaps these Christians think of the prerogatives they have as God's children. The Christian does have many privileges - his conversion, his heaven-bound journey and his Holy Spirit-directed life. But disobedience is not one of his privileges. When the Christian loses his first love, as he gains temporal knowledge, he becomes less desirous of following the plain, unworldly ways that the Bible teaches. He is affected by the world's reasoning and ways. He begins to copy the world's ways in his supposed service for God.

First comes impatience with the old-fashioned ways of the Church, then comes disobedience. The commands of God's Word are reasoned away as being applicable only to Bible times or as being unnecessary or as being a carry over from the Law of Moses. So the once-faithful Christian begins to lay aside the teachings of the Bible, he had promised to follow. He no longer can see the harm in the world's playthings. He no longer feels a strong enough love for his weaker Brother to abstain from having these things which might be more harmful to the Brother than to himself. His love has cooled along with his obedience.

Children sometimes are disobedient. They do not understand their parents reasons for the rules that dampen their heart's desires. Christians sometimes feel the same way. But just as the parents know better than the children so God knows better than we. Therefore He can give us, "Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you. And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty." II Cor. 6:17-18. This is not a new law nor a Dunkard law but God's command.

The Christian must be careful that he not follow the example of Saul. It is so easy to be influenced by the world to leave the simplicity that is in Christ. Our faith is not according to the reasoning of this world but is based on our belief in God and His Revealed Word. We are to offer our-

selves as a living sacrifice to God; let us make sure our sacrifice is “. . . holy and acceptable to God.” It can not be acceptable if we are disobedient to Him and His Church. Saul lost the kingship for his family by his disobedience, even worse he lost his soul. We have been forewarned, by his example, what is in store for us if we seek to disobey God. Are you willing to obey God?

ANSWERED PRAYERS

Part 22

At times the Lord will delay answering our prayers much longer than we think He should. He came to the disciples on the Sea of Galilee at the fourth watch of the night. His delay in answering may be for various reasons. It might be to try our faith. It might be to cause us to appreciate it a little more, when he does answer.

However and whenever He answers, it is always for our best. Our prayers should be insistent. There are times we must be desperate in prayer. We must wrestle in prayer. We must back up our worded prayers with definite meaning in earnest, to Almighty God.

Many of the prayers recorded in the Scriptures are “cries.” The Hebrew and Greek words used here are very strong. I believe there is such a thing as “storming” Heaven and praying through.

“The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.” are the words found in James 5:16. In the Greek, this verse is rendered, “The fervent prayer of a righteous man is mighty in its workings.”

In seeking answers to prayers, prayed fervently, we are not trying to overcome the reluctance of God. Rather, we are appealing to His willingness, as we plow through principalities and powers, and to His Almighty Power, to help us in our desperate need.

Jesus prayed in earnest. Heb. 5:7, “Who in the days of his flesh, when he had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto him that was able to save him from death, and was heard in that he feared;” Such prayers move God.

A Woman missionary in Africa was traveling by freighter to an outpost to do work in a particular mission field. The least expensive way to get there was by this freighter, which carried several dozen passengers at a rate cheaper than a regular passenger ship. The freighter was laden with tea, spices and a rather rich cargo. Several days out from port, a pirate boat drew up alongside and commandeered the freighter. About sixty rough, hard and vicious men boarded the freighter. Once on board, they slew some of the officers, threw shipmen overboard and caused much

fright and terror on the ship. This woman missionary stayed in her cabin, with the door locked, and prayed as she never prayed before.

This went on for several days. The only food she had during this time was a few snacks she had taken with her. She could hear cries and moaning of shipmen who were being beaten. She also learned that the food given to the sailors of the freighter was poisoned by the pirates. She wondered what her fate would be. Day and night she appealed to God for protection and also prayed for deliverance. Nearly all the while she had her Bible in her hand.

One day a knock came on her door. She would not open. The pirate ordered her to open or he would break the door in. Holding her bible, she prayed for protection. She unlocked the door and there stood two very rough and tough looking characters. They ordered her to follow them. She refused. They threatened to harm her. She said she had no fear and she was sure God would not let them molest her. When she mentioned "GOD" both men left the room. She continued to pray and wonder if God would deliver her and how, being out on the briny deep. Several days this knock came the same way. She always gave THE SAME ANSWER.

God was delaying her answer, but He had not forgotten her prayer. The next time the rap came, she opened bravely. There were these same two men. They wanted to talk to her. She invited them in. Instead of them doing the talking, she did. She read Scripture to them. She told them that her God in Heaven saw all things on earth. She told them that God would deliver her. Her faith, so evidenced, brought tears to these mens' eyes.

They left and said they would be back in a short time. She was no longer afraid. She had witnessed for her Lord to these two men. Due to the fact, they had listened to her, she was sure that her long and oft repeated prayers were now being answered.

Again, the knock on the door. She said, "Come in." They did. They had a tray of hot food, the first she had seen for quite a few days. She told them that she knew that poisoned food had been given some of the passengers and she wanted proof that this trayful was not poisoned. They said they planned to share their food with her and the fact they would eat it would be proof that it was not poisoned.

From that day on, she was free to go about the ship. She had plenty of good food and won the confidence of these pirates. When they came near the port where she was to disembark, they locked up every other shipman. When they anchored, they escorted her off the ship. Her delayed, fervent prayers were answered. Her conclusion was, since God did not answer her very first prayer, that He had a purpose in delaying the answer. That purpose was: that she might witness to a

group of men who knew not the way of salvation.

If your prayers are not answered just when you would prefer, do not despair. Give God time. He knows best. His ways are not our ways. In every instance have faith and God will bring it to pass.

Brother Paul R. Myers
Box 117, Greentown, Ohio 44630

THE HARVEST IS GREAT

"Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest. John 4:35.

Now days, we often hear that we just can't get souls saved today. You have heard it. I have heard it. This phrase is of the devil and I just don't like it. It makes our God look old, sick and weak; like He cannot cope with the world's increasing wickedness. It ties the hands of our world's preachers. It makes prayer seem useless, and belittles our faith.

The trouble is not with the harvest; but with the reapers. Men and women are lost but they can be saved. Hearts are hard, but can be broken. Sinners are the same as in Jesus' day. Sinners were always lost, blinded and enslaved, but Christ can open blind eyes, can soften the hardest hearts and can save the vilest sinners.

It's true, some hear the gospel for years, they grow hard in sin, grow old and die. But some do hear and are saved. The old die; children and young people with tender hearts replace them and long to hear the way of salvation. In any town or community there may be a time for reaping. But around the world it is continually the same, multitudes of people are ripe for the gospel. Again, I say, "There is no trouble with the harvest, the trouble lies with the reapers. When the gospel seed is sown, some by the wayside, some in the stony ground, there is still ground where the seed sown will bring forth fruit. The trouble is not with the sinner but the saints."

"If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." II Chron. 7:14. Notice, that the Lord said that revivals depend upon "my" people, the saved. God never promised revivals if sinner's met any requirements. He promised a revival when the people of God grew humble and prayful - waiting on God and confessing sins. When there is no revival, the trouble is not with the wicked world, but with the

saints of God. The scripture says, "Woe to them that are at ease in Zion, ..." Amos 6:1. The Lord does not pronounce a woe on the people who are at ease in the saloon, the shows, or worldly places, but a woe upon those who are at ease in the Churches.

When Jesus was upon the earth, He went from Judea to Galilee and said, "He must needs go through Samaria." Why? Instead of following an easier route, He went over the hills and rough places. There, He talked to the Samaritan woman at the well and won her repentance, faith and salvation. Then, when she went running to her friends, He said to His disciples, "Say not ye, There are yet four months and then cometh the harvest?... Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already, to harvest." The disciples didn't realize that here in a little town of Sychar, among this rejected and despised people, there was the white harvest of evangelism. Here were many to be saved. They even wondered why He talked to the woman at the well. Many were saved on the woman's testimony but many more were saved when they saw Jesus; He stayed two days longer to save souls. In Samaria the fields were white already to harvest. They only needed someone who cared enough to win them. A poor fallen woman when converted won many souls to Christ.

The fields were just as white among the Jews as among the Samaritans. So He sent seventy appointed men, two by two, to go to each place ahead of Him to acquaint them with the scriptures. He said, "... I send you forth as lambs among wolves." Luke 10:1-3.

It is true in 1975: there are souls to be won, there are hearts just as hungry. The fields are just as white but not enough people to care for their souls.

First, we must have power with God. God didn't want to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah but no one taught them the way. So they were burned with brimstone. Lot, the only Christian, who was vexed every day with their wickedness didn't have enough power with God to even save his own family. God plainly said He would save the city if even ten righteous souls could be found. But it seemed Lot didn't have any influence, even with his own family, for when he spake "... he seemed as one who mocked ..." Genesis 19:14. Lot was not a reaper, so Sodom was destroyed.

No matter how dark a room is, when you turn on the light the darkness is gone. Jesus said, "Ye are the light of the world." If the world does not have light it is because the Christians have put their lights under bushels. We have to be like candles that giveth light to all in the house. "... The whole world lieth in wickedness." I John 5:19. That is true now as it has always been, but Jesus said, "Ye are the salt of the earth. ..."

A minister said that they couldn't have a revival now. No matter how

they tried - they had had films, chalk drawings, suppers, games, groups of musicians, etc. None of these things can save souls. What it takes is a Spirit-filled, God-fearing preachers, who are not afraid to preach the Bible as it is, who have power with God. Can you imagine Paul, Peter and the great men having films, shows, suppers, etc. to win souls? They didn't need church suppers, films, etc. All they needed was the Word of God with the demonstration of the Spirit, from men who had power with God.

The Churches have lost their fire and vision. God pity us. The love of Christ has not dulled. He hasn't given up nor has he forsaken us. Soul winning should be the first concern of every Christian. God does not change and He is waiting to save souls.

We hear so much that sin is bad and people are so wicked. But sin is what it has always been; it's still sin and it always was bad. "...But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound." Romans 5:20. The Gospel is still the power of God. The Word of God is sharp enough for any sinner in the world. In Romans 1:16 Paul says, "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek." God will honor preaching and teaching His Word, as He did in olden times. "Is not my word like as a fire? saith the Lord; and like a hammer that braketh the rock in pieces?" Jer. 23:29. It was not Peter's preaching that won 3,000 at Pentecost; it was the super-natural working - the power - of the Holy Spirit. Paul's power in soul winning was not "...enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power." I Cor. 2:4.

Revivals do not come by carnal means, by human graces or gifts. They come by the miracle-working - Spirit of God. The pouring out of the Holy Spirit is upon Christian workers today, as it was in any age. This is why Jesus said "...Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." Matt. 4:19. The Holy Spirit is the equipment a Christian must have to win souls. It is promised to every preacher. Christ himself must make us soul winners. "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever." Heb. 13:8. It is true of Christ and all the Godhead and the Holy Spirit. God's part in revivals and in soul winning is unchanged today. That proves that the white harvest can be reaped today, the same as ever it could - if men have power with God.

- Sister Viola Broadwater



A lot of people go into debt just to keep up with their friends who already are. - Sunshine

PROPHECY AND FULFILLMENT

Prophecy: Psalms 118:22, The stone which the builders refused is become the head stone of the corner.

Fulfillment: Acts 4:11, This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner.

Prophecy: Psalms 2:1, Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing?

Fulfillment: Acts 4:25, Who by the mouth of thy servant David hast said, Why did the heathen rage, and the people imagine vain things?

Prophecy: Gen. 15:13, And he said unto Abram, Know of a surety that thy seed shall be a stranger in a land that is not their's, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them four hundred years;

Fulfillment: Acts 7:6, And God spake on this wise, that his seed should sojourn in a strange land; and that they should bring them into bondage, and entreat them evil four hundred years.

Prophecy: Deut. 18:15, The Lord thy God will raise up unto thee a Prophet from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, like unto me; unto him ye shall hearken.

Fulfillment: Acts 7:37, This is that Moses, which said unto the children of Israel, A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear.

Prophecy: Amos 5:25-27, Have ye offered unto me sacrifices and offerings in the wilderness forty years, O house of Israel? But ye have borne the tabernacle of your Moloch and Chiun your images, the star of your god, which ye made to yourselves. Therefore will I cause you to go into captivity beyond Damascus, saith the Lord, whose name is The God of hosts.

Fulfillment: Acts 7:42-43, Then God turned, and gave them up to worship the host of heaven; as it is written in the book of the prophets, O ye house of Israel, have ye offered to me slain beasts and sacrifices by the space of forty years in the wilderness? Yea, ye took up the tabernacle of Moloch, and the star of your god Remphan, figures which ye made to worship them; and I will carry you away beyond Babylon.

Prophecy: Psalms 2:7, I will declare the decree; the Lord hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee.

Fulfillment: Acts 13:33, God hath fulfilled the same unto us their children, in that he hath raised up Jesus again, as it is written in the second Psalm, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee.

Prophecy: Isa. 55:3, Incline your ear, and come unto me; hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David.

Fulfillment: Acts 13:34, And as concerning that he raised him up from the dead, now no more to return to corruption, he said on this wise, I will give you the sure mercies of David.

Prophecy: Habakkuk 1:5, Behold ye among the heathen, and regard, and wonder marvellously: for I will work a work in your days, which ye will not believe, though it be told you.

Fulfillment: Acts 13:40-41, Beware therefore, lest that come upon you, which is spoken of in the prophets; Behold, ye despisers, and wonder, and perish; for I work a work in your days, a work which ye shall in no wise believe, though a man declare it unto you.

Prophecy: Amos 9:11-12, In that day will I raise up the tabernacle of David that is fallen, and close up the breaches thereof; and I will raise up his ruins, and I will build it as in the days of old; That they may possess the remnant of Edom, and of all the heathen, which are called by my name, saith the Lord that doeth this.

Fulfillment: Acts 15:15-17, And to this agree the words of the prophets; as it is written, After this I will return, and will build again the tabernacle of David, which is fallen down; and I will build again the ruins thereof, and I will set it up; That the residue of men might seek after the Lord, and all the Gentiles, upon whom my name is called, saith the Lord, who doeth all these things.

The following scriptures were fulfilled by Christ when He established His Church, and the apostles went everywhere preaching the gospel, even to the Gentiles.

Isa. 54:1-5, Sing, O barren, thou that didst not hear; break forth into singing, and cry aloud, thou that didst not travail with child; for more are the children of the desolate than the children of the married wife, saith the Lord. Enlarge the place of thy tent, and let them stretch forth the curtains of thine habitations; spare not, lengthen thy cords, and strengthen thy stakes; For thou shalt break forth on the right hand and on the left; and thy seed shall inherit the Gentiles, and make the desolate cities to be inhabited. Fear not; for thou shalt not be ashamed; neither be thou confounded; for thou shalt not be put to shame; for thou shalt forget the shame of thy youth, and shalt not remember the reproach of thy widowhood any more. For thy Maker is thine husband; the Lord of hosts is his name; and thy Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel; The God of the whole earth shall he be called.

Isa. 11:10, And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek; and his rest shall be glorious.

Zech. 2:11, And many nations shall be joined to the Lord in that day,

and shall be my people; and I will dwell in the midst of thee, and thou shalt know that the Lord of hosts hath sent me unto thee.

Brother W.E. Bashor
867 Lorna Dr., Glen Ellen, Calif. 95442

CHILDREN'S PAGE

FROGS, LICE AND FLIES KING SAUL

Exodus 8:1-32

How would you like to wake up in the morning and see frogs all around you - on your bed - in your bed - on your pillow - all over the floor - everywhere you looked - inside and out - nothing but frogs? This was what happened in Egypt when Pharaoh would not let the children of Israel go into the wilderness to sacrifice to God. Pharaoh was determined to keep the Hebrews as slaves. The Egyptians were not used to work. Pharaoh knew if the Hebrews got away from Egypt he would get very little work done, indeed.

Moses warned Pharaoh what would happen if he continued to refuse to let God's people go. But Pharaoh refused. Aaron, Moses' brother, stretched out his hand over the waters of Egypt, as God commanded. Out of the rivers and streams, pools, wherever there was water, the frogs came onto the land - hundreds, thousands, millions of frogs came. They hopped into houses - into the Egyptians' bedrooms - into their kitchens. They got into their ovens and into their kneading troughs where they made bread. Imagine cutting into a loaf of bread and finding a frog! Pharaoh promised to let the people go if Moses would pray to God and take away the plague of frogs. Moses did, but Pharaoh didn't. He was still hard-hearted and selfish. The Egyptians gathered the frogs into heaps - everywhere, piles of dead frogs. And the land of Egypt stank. I'll bet it did!

Because Pharaoh would not keep his promise, God told Moses to have Aaron to smite the dust with his rod and the dust would become lice. Lice feed on the blood of people and animals. The dust of the land was literally crawling with lice everywhere. They were on the people and the cattle and every living thing. What a mess! How would you have liked to have been in Egypt at that time?

Pharaoh's magicians tried to stop the plague of lice but they were

powerless to do so. They begged Pharaoh to let the Hebrews go but Pharaoh would not! Can you imagine a man as stubborn as that?

So God sent flies upon Egypt - swarms of flies. They filled the air and crawled on the ground - in the houses and on the Egyptians. I can imagine it almost drove them crazy. One fly is too many for me; but how would you like to be covered with them?

They were everywhere but one place in Egypt. Can you guess where that was? It was the land of Goshen where God's people lived. No flies were in Goshen! How do you suppose those swarms of flies knew where to stop? But they knew! With God all things are possible. God can do anything. God loved His people and felt sorry for them. He can take care of you and me too, if we will only give ourselves to Him. Don't be like stubborn Pharaoh. Be obedient to God and He will surely bless you.

Brother Rudy Cover

NEWS ITEMS

MINISTERIAL LIST CHANGE

The new address of Bro. Eugene Kauffman is Rt. 6, Box 51, Harrisonburg, Virginia 22801.

NORTHERN LANCASTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

The Northern Lancaster County Congregation of the Dunkard Brethren Church plan to have their Revival at Longenecker's Brethren Church, west of Lititz, starting Monday evening Sept. 15th for two weeks with Elder Paul Reed, of Riner, Virginia, as the evangelist.

Location: On 501, coming from the south turn left at second light, from north turn right at third light, go about one mile to brick church on the left.

A hearty invitation is extended to all who can to attend these meetings.

Sister Susanna B. Johns, Cor.

DAYTON, VIRGINIA

The Lord willing we will hold our revival meetings at the Dayton Dunkard Brethren Church in Dayton, Virginia Sept. 20 through Sept. 28, 1975 with Bro. Harley Flory as the evangelist. Pray for the success of these meetings and come if you can.

Brother Eugene Kauffman

PLEVNA, INDIANA

The Plevna Congregation is looking forward to a Revival Meeting starting October 12 and ending October 26. Bro. David Skiles of Torreon Navajo Mission will be our evangelist.

Our Harvest Meeting will be Sunday, October 12, at the beginning of our meetings. Elder Melvin Roesch from West Unity, Ohio will deliver the Harvest sermon.

On Saturday, October 25, there will be services starting at 10:00 a.m., and at 2:00 p.m. with our Lovefeast at 7:00 p.m.

We desire an interest in your prayers and invite all who can, to come and enjoy these meetings with us.

Sister Verda Lorenz, Cor.

MOUNTAIN DALE, MARYLAND

We, the members of the Mountain Dale Dunkard Brethren Church, will not be able to hold our Lovefeast on the set date, the last Sunday of September, the 28th, due to lack of help.

Sister E. May Rice, Cor.

ENGLEWOOD, OHIO

The Englewood Congregation enjoyed a two weeks revival from July 20 to August 3 with Bro. Jack Snyder as speaker. He preached the Word and sent out the warning.

Although there were no additions to the Church, we trust the seed that was sown will bring forth a bountiful harvest in days to come.

We pray a blessing on Bro. Jack and family as they go forth laboring for the Master.

Sister Della Klepinger, Cor.

BROADWATER CHAPEL, MARYLAND

Bro. John Pepper of Carlisle, Pa. came into the Broadwater Chapel Congregation July 26 to August 3 for a series of revival meetings. These meetings were well attended. As a result three souls decided to walk closer to the Lord and were received into church fellowship on their former baptism.

Sat. p.m., August 2, we met for services and Lovefeast in the evening with Bro. Pepper officiating. Visiting Elders and Ministers present were

James Kegerreis, Otto Harris, William Carpenter, Virgil Leatherman and Carl Broadwater. These Brethren fed us richly from God's Word. May we apply what we have heard to our hearts and live it in our daily walk in life.

We were happy to have Sister Peffer and children with us during most of these services. We feel grateful for all the visitors and invite you all back anytime.

Our prayer is that we may always be found doing God's will.

Sister Bertha Dorsey, Cor.

OBITUARY

JESSE JAMES BROADWATER

Jesse James Broadwater, 87, departed this life July 15, 1975, shortly after being admitted to Sacred Heart Hospital.

Born at Pine Swamp, Garrett County, Maryland, he was the son of the late Mortimer Tatten and Lucinda Ellen (Magruder) Broadwater. His wife, Annabelle (Wilt) Broadwater, preceded him in death in 1966.

To this union were born five children: three sons, Eston Broadwater, Barton, Md.; Dayson Broadwater, Dundulk; Virgil Broadwater, Glen Burnie; two daughters, Mrs. Raymond Wampler, Frostburg, Md.; and Mrs. Marshall Wilt, Savage River, Md.

On August 5, 1967, he was baptized into the Dunkard Brethren Church at Savage River, Md. He was of a meek and quiet spirit and was a good friend and neighbor.

He was a retired farmer, with many friends.

He is also survived by two brothers and six sisters; twenty grandchildren and a number of great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted July 17th at 1 p.m. in the Baal Funeral Home, Westernport, Md. by Bro. Howard W. Broadwater.

Interment in Rest Lawn Memorial Gardens, Lavale, Md.

Why should I be afraid?
It is not death to die.
'Tis but a step to glory
And a mansion in the sky.

How can I be afraid?
The Lord is with me still,
And loves me as He did that day,
He died upon the hill.

Afraid? of what? No night's so dark,
It can His Glory dim!
Afraid? Oh, no! Though Jordan roar,
I cross - dry shod - with Him.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

Oct. 5 - The Collection for the Saints - Admonitions. I Cor. 16:1-24

Oct. 12 - Comfort in Tribulation. II Cor. 1:1-24.

Oct. 19 - Forgiveness. II Cor. 2:1-17

Oct. 26 - Changed to the Image of Christ. II Cor. 3:1-18

QUESTIONS:

(1) When was the collection for the saints to be done in the church at Corinth? I Cor. 16:2. Had Paul given this instruction to any of the other churches? I Cor. 16:1.

(2) If we are partakers of the sufferings of Christ, what blessing are we promised? II Cor. 1:7.

(3) Why is it necessary to forgive? II Cor. 2:7, 11.

(4) What does it mean to be an epistle of ☆ Christ? II Cor. 3:2, 3, 6.

(5) How can we be changed to the image of Christ? II Cor. 3:18.

Memory Verse Eze. 11:16

Therefore say, Thus saith the Lord, God; Although I have cast them far off among the heathen, and although I have scattered them among the countries, yet will I be to them as a little sanctuary in the countries where they shall come.

Wed. 1 Eze. 7:1-27

Thurs. 2 Eze. 9:1-11

Fri. 3 Eze. 11:1-25

Sat. 4 Eze. 12:1-28

Memory Verse Eze. 12:27

Son of man, behold, they of the house of Israel say, The vision that he seeth is for many days to come, and he prophesieth of the times that are far off.

Sun. 5 Eze. 14:1-23

Mon. 6 Eze. 18:1-32

Tues. 7 Eze. 20:1-26

Wed. 8 Eze. 20:27-49

Thurs. 9 Eze. 21:1-32

Fri. 10 Eze. 22:1-31

Sat. 11 Eze. 26:1-21

Memory Verse Eze. 33:31

And they come unto thee as the people cometh, and they sit before thee as my people, and they hear thy words, but they will not do them: for with their mouth they show much love, but their heart goeth after their covetousness.

Sun. 12 Eze. 33:1-33

Mon. 13 Eze. 34:1-33

Tues. 14 Eze. 36:1-20

Wed. 15 Eze. 36:21-38

Thurs. 16 Eze. 37:1-28

Fri. 17 Eze. 38:1-23

Sat. 18 Eze. 39:1-29

Memory Verse Eze. 34:26

And I will make them and the places round about my hill a blessing; and I will cause the shower to come down in his season; there shall be showers of blessing.

Sun. 19 Eze. 44:1-31

Mon. 20 Dan. 2:1-23

Tues. 21 Dan. 2:24-49

Wed. 22 Dan. 3:1-30

Thurs. 23 Dan. 4:1-137

Fri. 24 Dan. 8:1-27

Sat. 25 Dan. 9:1-27

Memory Verse Eze. 37:12

Therefore prophesy and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord God; Behold O my people, I will open your graves, and cause you to come up out of your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel.

Sun. 26 Dan. 10:1-21

Mon. 27 Dan. 11:1-26

Tues. 28 Dan. 11:27-45

Wed. 29 Dan. 12:1-13

Thurs. 30 Hes. 1:1-11

Fri. 31 Hes. 2:1-23

Memory Verse Dan. 12:12

Blessed is he that waiteth, and cometh to the thousand three hundred and five and thirty days.

Hes. 1:10

Yet the number of the children of Israel shall be as the sand of the sea, which cannot be measured nor numbered; and it shall come to pass, that in the place where it was said unto them, Ye are not my people, there it shall be said unto them, Ye are the seas of the living God.

Paul R. Myers
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BIBLE MONITOR

VOL LIII

OCTOBER 1, 1975

NO. 19

"For the faith once for all delivered to the saints."

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

LASTING TREASURES

Seek first the kingdom of God;
All else will He add unto thee.
Desire the things from above,
The truth that can make your heart free.

The world will offer its wealth
And pleasure for you to enjoy.
But then the wages of death
Are paid to those souls they employ.

For honor fleeth away;
Good works will not profit you then;
When God shall rightly discern
And try all the children of men.

The only righteousness then,
Or treasure that'll never grow dim
Is that which Jesus has given
To those who have trusted in Him.

- John H. Myers
Selected by Sister Ruth Drake

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP

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DISCOURAGEMENT

Across our Beloved Brotherhood there are a number of small congregations. These groups of God's People are especially subject to discouragement. It is disheartening when the appointed meetings are not well-attended. It is saddening when there are those who have chosen no longer to walk the same pathway, they once enjoyed traveling with these same congregations. The death of the Saints, one-by-one, leaves a void in

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the heart often filled with discouragement; especially when younger members are not present to continue their labors. The evil conditions in the community seem even worse when there are few to stand for the Right. These conditions not only affect the small congregations but to some extent the large congregations, also. If the members have Christian love in their hearts it is only normal that they will feel these conditions. It is when these conditions garner a too-large place in their heart that discouragement comes and hampers their Christian life and witness.

It is not only as a congregation that Christians suffer discouragement but as individuals. In fact, it is the accumulation of several discouragements that make up the Congregation's discouragement. Our whole suffers when any part of it is hurt or diseased. It is the same in the Church when a member becomes discouraged. It is not long until the feeling spreads throughout the congregation. It is good for each member to examine himself when he sees discouragement in his congregation. It may have been his discouraged attitude that disheartened the others.

Discouragement is contagious. But it not only spreads, it deepens. It feeds upon itself. The work of the Church is impeded. The discouraged members do not feel it worth while to continue. As their efforts lessen, the results lessen. As the results grow less, they further slacken their efforts. Then they sell their congregation short because the numbers are few, the singing is poor and the talents are few.

When efforts are slackened, when discouragements grow deeper, Satan is happy. He wants Christians to give up. He wants the congregation to discontinue services. He wants the officials to disband the congregation. He uses discouragement as one of his favorite tools for derailing the work of the Church. When the Church is discouraged - she is selling not only herself short but also God. Satan wants Christians to believe that there is no hope. He wants them to hide their light under a bushel. He would have them forget the Divine institution of the Church - the great price which purchased her redemption and the power available to her through the Holy Spirit. If Christians forget this, they will not see results within the Church - the strengthening and maturing of the Saints; nor without the Church - the conversion of sinners. Satan's desire is for the members to be increasingly aware of their weaknesses. In their lack and resultant discouragement they will give up personally and collectively. When discouragement comes, remember, it is one of Satan's most-used tools.

Christians must recognize the source of their discouragement as the first step in combating it and returning to a place of usefulness. They must see that Satan uses these conditions to harm the soul. But God can use these same trials to strengthen His children into mature believers, who will serve Him in "thick or thin." Many times Christians feel like the disciples on the storm-tossed ship as Jesus approached, walking on the water. (Matt. 14) They feel far from shore with numerous "ghosts" near. But the

disciples learned a lesson. Jesus was near; there was no reason to fear. They were calmed by His Words, "Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid." They took courage. Peter was encouraged enough to step out of the ship and walk toward Jesus on the water. This should have been a lesson to help sustain them in other times of distress. Christians face discouraging times but if God is near (or rather if they are near to God), they need not fear. "If God be for us, who can be against us?" Rom. 8:31b. As Christians overcome a season of discouragement, they have a weapon when discouragement would come again. The experience will serve them well when Satan sends trials to hinder the Church's work at another time.

As a people of God, as Christians, as congregations, as a Brotherhood we must press on leaving discouragement behind. We must go forward with a renewed faith in God, a determined hold on the Bible and an increased desire to live above the world's discouragements. We must not allow the work to slacken but rather to seek its growth and well-being. We want to be overcomers. We can be overcomers. Will you be an overcomer?

QUEEN ESTHER'S GREAT COURAGE

The book of Esther, being one of my favorite Old Testament books, I would like to share it with others.

This portion of the history of the Jews, who once were in Jerusalem and the surroundings, tells of their Babylonian Captivity. It is not certain who was the author of this portion of history of the Jews. But we do see that a certain character of the book who stands out very prominently had much to do with the keeping of these records. This man was Mordecai. There is an unusual characteristic of this book. The name "God" is not found in its pages, but we see the finger of God throughout the whole story.

King Ahasuerus reigned in that province or empire. The King made a feast unto all who were present in his palace at Shusham. Esther 1:3-8. Vashti, who was the royal queen, also made a feast for the women in the royal palace.

Queen Vashti refused to come to the feast which Ahasuerus had set up. Because of this, the King became very angry. This caused a very unhappy falling out between the King and Queen.

The King sought advice from his counselors about what to do since the Queen would not obey his command. The council ruled that the Queen be brought before the King but still she refused.

The King ruled a great province but he could not rule his haughty, spirit of anger. His anger burned within him. But the Queen in her modesty continually refused to obey the King.

So the question was proposed to the King's Council, "What shall we

do with Queen Vashti, according to the law?" The King made a royal commandment, that he would "...give her royal estate to another that is better than she." In other words, the King would divorce her because of her continual refusal to attend the King's feast. She was being disobedient to her husband, King Ahasuerus.

- To be Continued
Brother Clarence R. Gehr
Dallas Center, Iowa 50063

NON-CONFORMITY

Theodore Myers

Some twenty years ago when I joined the Church of the Brethren, one of the outstanding and distinctive doctrines was that of non-conformity. Today all you can hear along that line is "the simple life." I guess it is a softer and more modern term.

It would be well to study these two terms and see if they both fill the gospel requirements, especially in the light of what has taken place within the Church since working on the latter basis. I believe after careful study, all will agree that it is possible to follow a simple life program and still be conformed to this world, even in our manner of dress. What starts out to be simple does not remain so, too often.

I realize that many do not think the church has a right to set a certain standard of dress. Let us consider that for a moment. It has always been considered that where the gospel was definite, that should be the guide to go by. When it was not specific on a certain point, then try and follow the spirit or intent as the best light and judgment would dictate.

I have often wondered how anybody could say that a sister or brother dressed in accordance with the decision of Annual Conference (1911) in any way violated any letter or spirit of the gospel. . . .The brethren prayed so earnestly for the guidance of the Holy Spirit in forming a conclusion as to what would be the proper way for a Christian to appear in the matter of clothing when confronted by the ever-changing styles and fashions dictated by ungodly men and women for the purpose of making money and to which styles thousands are mere slaves.

I have the first person that will say that their prayer was not answered and that they were not guided by the Holy Spirit in coming to the conclusion they did. The best proofs that they were so led, are, that the garb recommended for both Brethren and Sisters meets every Bible requirement, and what it has done for the Church in holding the bond of unity, and the results that have followed since members have so generally violated the decision.

I do not believe there ever was a Church that made so radical a change

in so short a time as the mother church. Other churches once stood where she stood along this line, but they are today, numbered with the slaves of fashion, but theirs was a more gradual transition.

Our church fathers were constrained to form a separate organization not being able to satisfy their souls' need and longings in any other organization of their day. I am wondering if those organizations have so completely reformed that those fathers could fit in now. . . .

Eternity will reveal the good our special garb has done for the souls of men and women. I am sure it has kept many away from questionable places, because they knew their garb did not correspond with the character and conditions of the places that they would have otherwise gone. Neither do I believe there is a sister in the brotherhood that wears a bonnet, that has, or even is tempted to have her hair bobbed. Should there be one, what a combination!

True, all too true, there are those who do not live up to what their clothing would indicate, and what publicity they do receive! But how little is said about thousands of good, honest, sincere and spirit-filled Godly men and women, as your father and mother, perhaps were. Neither do you hear of lack of spirituality of the bobbed haired sisters and the "flapper Christians" if there can be such a thing.

Somehow these two types of members are seldom mentioned. Usually it is some pious person, who, not intentionally, erred, who receives all the publicity. Their mistakes are made a public issue while the same criticizers never see the good the individual has done.

So much is said these days of compelling people to do so and so. I fail to see the grounds for these statements. We are surrounded by all types and kinds of churches and before anybody joins any of them they should count the cost and understand what they are joining. Understand what that certain church stands for, if it happens to stand for anything.

Now, if I, on my own free will, after due consideration of polity and doctrines of a church, make application to join that Church, it is my bound duty to obey the rules that govern that church. Then why should and do people join a church that does not believe in conforming to the world in the matter of dress and promise to be true and faithful until death, then violate those sacred promises, but still desire to remain members?

. . . A lodge or any organized body must have rules and regulations, whereby it is governed. Then why not do what we have promised? I am sure a sister or brother whose life will correspond can find no other garb that will become them any better, that is the injunction, to dress as becometh men and women professing Godliness.

I am sure I have seen lodge men and women parading the streets in paraphernalia, that if the church would ask them to do so for Christ's sake, they would rebel. Why not be as true to your church as lodge members are to their lodge?

So often we are ashamed to be seen on the streets and be recognized

as Christians. BEWARE! Jesus says, "whosoever is ashamed of me in this sinful generation, of him will I be ashamed when he comes with the Holy Angels."

I am sure the wrong party is ashamed, for those who are but half dressed and look as if they were dipped in a flour barrel, etc., etc., are the ones who really have reasons to be ashamed.

Brethren, let us hold fast our profession. Let us pray for more grace and strength to live in this present world as we ought.

Selected from May 1, 1927 Bible Monitor
By Brother Paul R. Myers

LEANING ON JESUS BOSOM

"Now there was leaning on Jesus' bosom one of his disciples, whom Jesus loved." John 13:23.

A number of years ago, when I was seriously ill, I found out what it was really like to lean on Jesus' bosom. It was a most glorious, wonderful experience. I felt the warmth of His body and arms holding me close. The angels were singing the heavenly songs in the not-too-far-distance, and it made me homesick for Heaven.

I can't tell, and there aren't words to express the wonderful, tender care the Dear Lord Jesus can give. I was in His arms. He held me close. I know what it means to be:

Safe in the arms of Jesus,
Safe on his gentle breast,
There by his love o'er shadowed,
Sweetly my soul shall rest.
Hark! 'tis the voice of angels,
Borne in a song to me,
Over the fields of glory,
Over the jasper sea. . . .

Through prayers and petitions of loved ones, He felt I was still needed by my family and friends. So He graciously and most lovingly gave me back to be with my loved ones here on earth.

When I awoke I asked my dear husband what day it was. His reply was, "It is Sunday." I told him, "Oh, how I would love to go to church today, but I know I can't." So I requested someone come and sing for me. My request was granted. Instead of a whole houseful of people coming, as I had longed for, two dear brothers and two dear sisters came from church that afternoon and sang. How much I enjoyed their singing. I'm sure their voices will be welcomed in that Heavenly Choir of Angels some sweet day. How often I recall that wonderful experience.

I've been ill many times since. When there's no one else to turn to, I give myself to Jesus and ask Him to hold me and keep me safe in His loving arms. He has wonderfully blest me so many, many times.

About a year ago when I was told I had to have another operation, my heart sank and I felt so alone. Then I realized, I, myself, was trying to carry another burden which was more than I could bear. I turned to my Jesus and said, "Lord, its beyond my power. I'm helpless, Lord. I'm putting the burden all on you." I got a good night's sleep. The next morning I took care of some necessary business and went to the hospital. Old Satan kept trying to tell me I still had a burden, but I knew better. The ministers came to my bedside that evening and anointed me. I was at still more peace, for Satan cleared-out immediately. I had another good night's sleep. In the morning I didn't even miss not having breakfast as I was being fed on Heavenly Manna. I came thru the operation in fine shape, because my Lord had full control.

He has healed me many times through the doctors' skillful and experienced hands, so I can still travel on. My Jesus has done all this for me. I feel so special having had so much of His love and healing, so bountifully showered on lowly me.

I want to pass along to other dear travelers my experiences. I pray some wayward soul might see "the peace which passeth all understanding," and give their hand to the church and their heart to God. So that we may say:

My Jesus, I love thee, I know thou art mine;
For thee all the follies of sin I resign;
My gracious Redeemer, My Saviour art thou;
If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

Oh, may we so live as to be able to gain a Heavenly Home". . .not made with hands, eternal in the heavens." where all may hear the Heavenly Angels sing.

What a day that will be
When my Jesus I shall see.

- Sister Mary Alice Carlin

NEWS ITEMS

WINTERHAVEN, CALIFORNIA

The Winterhaven Congregation had Bro. and Sis. Ora Skiles and Bro. and Sis. Daniel Skiles with us August 24th. We were very glad to have them here. We had some good meetings. We hope more of the Brethren and Sisters might come and be with us. We are few but are trying to do the Lord's will. Pray for us for we need your prayers.

Sister Dora R. Spurgeon, Cor.

We extend our heartfelt thanks and appreciation to all who so lovingly remembered Sister Ellen, our beloved companion and mother, in so many ways during her illness; and us in our sadness and loneliness since her leaving to be with our Lord. May God richly reward all of you.

Brother Ray Reed and Family

CHILDREN'S PAGE

THE PLAGUE UPON CATTLE- BOILS AND HAIL

Exodus 9:1-35

How hard-hearted can a man get? I think Pharaoh was a living answer to that question. The more worse the plagues on Egypt; the more stubborn Pharaoh became. So God sent a disease on the cattle of Egypt - upon the horses, upon the asses, upon the oxen and upon the sheep. The cattle of Egypt died but not one of the cattle of the Hebrews died. I suppose some of the Egyptians came to Pharaoh and said, "The cattle of the Hebrews are not affected by this plague." Pharaoh sent men to investigate and they couldn't find one of the cattle of the Hebrews that was dead. Surely Pharaoh would give up now, but he didn't. He would not let God's people go.

God said to Moses and Aaron, "Take handfuls of ashes and sprinkle it toward heaven in the sight of Pharaoh." They did and there was dust in all the land of Egypt and it caused boils to break out on man and beast. Everybody got boils. If you ever had boils, you know how painful they can be. The magicians got boils and they were so miserable that they couldn't stand before Pharaoh. I think Pharaoh had them too, because the Bible says that the boils were upon all the Egyptians. Still Pharaoh would not obey God. This shows what can happen to a man who is determined to have his own way.

God told Moses to stand before Pharaoh and warn him of a pestilence that God would send on Egypt. Then Pharaoh would know that there is none like God in all the earth. The people of Egypt worshipped many gods, even Pharaoh, himself, was supposed to be a god. God had plans for Pharaoh. Moses warned the people of Egypt to get their livestock under shelter because God would send hail that would kill any person or beast that was not inside. Those that feared the Lord among the servants of Pharaoh made their servants and cattle go into their houses; but those that didn't fear God left them outside. Moses stretched forth his rod toward heaven and it began to thunder and hail. Wonder of wonders, there was fire mixed in with the hail. Every man and beast that was out in the fields was killed and every tree was broken down and all the crops in the land were destroyed. But in the land of Goshen there was no hail. Pharaoh was scared this time and called for Moses and Aaron and said, "I have sinned this time and the Lord is righteous. Intreat the Lord and I will let your people go." When God stopped the hail and Pharaoh saw that the danger was over, he changed his mind and would not let the people go.

What a wonderful God we have! His ways are righteous and we can only become righteous by obeying Him.

- Brother Rudy Cover

ANSWERED PRAYERS

Part 23

Without doubt, most of the Bible Monitor readers have heard a father or mother pray for a son or daughter. Perhaps that son or daughter was wayward, disobedient or ill.

I have heard such prayers and they get to one's heart strings. To hear a troubled parent pray for their child, for whatever cause, does something to you. I have read of instances where the child being prayed for, heard his parents' prayers offered in his every behalf. It touched the child and caused him to change his pattern of life, which, in my thinking, was God's answer to prayer.

We have recorded in Matthew 15:21-28, the prayer of a parent in behalf of a sick daughter.

Jesus came into the coasts of Tyre and Sidon. There He met a woman of Canaan, who had a very grievous problem on her heart. She had an ill daughter. Perhaps, other attempts at getting help from doctors or home remedies had failed. She had love for her daughter and she had faith in Jesus.

She prayed to Jesus. The Word says she cried unto Him, saying, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, thou son of David; my daughter is grievously vexed with a devil."

Jesus heard her, but He did not answer her. The disciples wanted Him to send her away, "...for she crieth after us." This informs me that she was not easily put off. She had faith, Jesus could help and she continued to appeal to Him.

In verse twenty-five the Word states that she came worshipping Him, saying "LORD, HELP ME." Again praying to Him for help.

He knew what was in her heart, just as He knows what is in your heart and in my heart. He conversed with her on several issues. Her response to Him was such that He answered and said unto her, "O woman, great is thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt."

She was not praying for herself. She was praying for her daughter. She did not pray just once. She prayed often enough that she proved to Christ her faith in Him.

Near the start of this lesson, when she prayed, Jesus answered her not a word. Her last prayer brought a response. He said unto her, "...be it unto thee even as thou wilt." That was the answer she was seeking. The Word says, in verse 28, "And her daughter was made whole from that very hour."

Thank God, we have a Throne of Grace that we can rely on.

Brother Paul R. Myers
Box 117, Greentown, Ohio 44630

WHY, LORD? WHY?

"Why, Lord? Why did this happen to me? You promised to take care of me, to guide me. Why then am I having all this trouble? Why, Lord?" Did you ever come face to face with a situation where you asked God "why?" You could see no purpose in it, no reason why it should have happened to you. Yet it did happen and you could only ask why.

Perhaps you have observed a friend's life, wherein came many troubles and trials one after another, until it seemed as if your friend would break under the strain. Then, when the trials subside, you could see in that person a new spiritual strength. When we have problems, and God shows us His power to work them out, we learn to trust Him completely. This gives a calmness and peace deep inside which defies the turmoil of life. "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee; because he trusteth in thee." Isaiah 26:3.

The Bible tells of a man, perfect and upright, who had such an experience. He couldn't understand why everything went wrong all at once. His grief was very great. God had given Satan special permission to cause Job much trouble and heartache. Everything Job had done and stood for was challenged, yet he endured; his latter end was better than the beginning. Job's answer to all this was, "Though he slay me, yet will I trust Him," "... The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord."

You may be thinking that Job surely must have had a lot of faith to endure all that he did. You may be thinking also that your own faith isn't strong enough to endure such a supreme test. Even if your faith is weak and you feel that you are not reaching God with it, He will accept what you have and help you gain more. "Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience." James 1:3. Without some trying of your faith, you wouldn't gain the spiritual strength that God wants you to have.

We can talk about God's love and care, but it takes a firsthand experience to know what He can do for us. When we have experienced God's care in a time of special need, we can assure others that He is sufficient for their needs because He was for ours. Our trials also enable us to have true compassion for others because we understand their needs better after we have had problems.

When someone has a lot of problems and you seek to help, what is your approach? Are you like Job's wife, who foolishly told him to curse God and die? Are you like Job's friends who came to mourn with him and comfort him then proceeded to tell him in detail that he was being punished for his sins? Or are you like Elihu, who showed Job that God is just in His doings and not to be questioned? Anyone in trouble needs to be directed to God, not just condemned and left to solve his own problems.

If you are having an experience which causes you to ask "why", you

can be sure that God has allowed it for a special reason. Job said, "But he knoweth the way that I take: when he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold." God knows what it takes to refine us, and He knows how much we can stand. He placed a limit on how far Satan could go with Job and He does the same for us. God wants us to be as pure gold, which reflects the image of the refiner. Our refiner is God; when He has removed our impurities, it is His image we reflect.

"For whom the Lord loveth he correcteth; even as a father the son in whom he delighteth." Proverbs 3:12. God allows certain experiences, not to punish you, but to bring out the best in you. (If He punished us as we deserve to be, we couldn't bear it.) When troubles come, remain loyal to God or you will become bitter and blame Him for your sufferings. God hasn't stopped loving you even though it may seem like it. Job's friends thought God caused all his trouble; but in reality it was Satan desperately trying to get Job to curse God, whom he had long worshipped.

Look to God now before troubles and trials come. You must have close contact with God day by day so you will have strength to draw on when things go wrong. God wants you to be victorious over trials and to gain new spiritual insight as Job did. For he said, "...but now mine eye seeth thee." After the victory comes the blessing and what a joy it is! Now you can say "thank you, Lord, for seeing me through this and giving me peace deep in my heart." Instead of "Why, Lord?" you will say, "As for God, His way is perfect."

- Sister Eileen Broadwater

PROPHECY AND FULFILLMENT

Prophecy: Exodus 22:28. Thou shalt not revile the gods, nor curse the ruler of thy people.

Fulfillment: Acts 23:5. Then said Paul, I wist not, brethren, that he was the high priest; for it is written, Thou shalt not speak evil of the ruler of thy people.

Prophecy: Isa. 49:6. And he said, It is a light thing that thou shouldest be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the preserved of Israel; I will also give thee for a light to the Gentiles, that thou mayest be may salvation unto the end of the earth.

Fulfillment: Acts 26:22-23. Having therefore obtained help of God, I continue unto this day, witnessing both to small and great, saying none other things than those which the prophets and Moses did say should come; That Christ should suffer, and that he should be the first that should rise from the dead, and should shew light unto the people, and to the Gentiles.

Prophecy: Isa. 6:9. And he said, Go, and tell the people, Hear ye indeed, but understand not; and see ye indeed, but perceive not.

Fulfillment: Acts 28:26. Saying, Go unto this people, and say, Hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and not perceive.

Prophecy: Isa. 11:1. And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots:

Fulfillment: Rom. 1:2-3. Which he had promised afore by his prophets in the holy scriptures, concerning his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh.

Prophecy: Psa. 32:1-2. Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man unto whom the Lord imputeth not iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no guile.

Fulfillment: Rom. 4:6-8. Even as David also describeth the blessedness of the man, unto whom God imputeth righteousness without works, Saying, blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered. Blessed is the man to whom the Lord will not impute sin.

Prophecy: Gen. 22:18. And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice.

Fulfillment: Rom. 4:17. (As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were.

Prophecy: Gen. 25:23. And the Lord said unto her, Two nations are in thy womb, and two manner of people shall be separated from thy bowels; and the one people shall be stronger than the other people; and the elder shall serve the younger.

Fulfillment: Rom. 9:12. It was said unto her, The elder shall serve the younger.

Prophecy: Mal. 1:2-3. I have loved you, saith the Lord. Yet ye say, wherein hast thou loved us? Was not Esau Jacob's brother? saith the Lord; yet I loved Jacob. And I hated Esau, and laid his mountains and his heritage waste for the dragons of the wilderness.

Fulfillment: Rom. 9:13. As it is written, Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated.

Prophecy: Exodus 9:16. And in very deed for this cause have I raised thee up, for to shew in thee my power; and that my name may be declared throughout all the earth.

Fulfillment: Rom. 9:17. For the scripture saith unto Pharaoh, Even for this same purpose have I raised thee up, that I might shew my power in thee, and that my name might be declared throughout all the earth.

Prophecy: Isa. 1:9. Except the Lord of hosts had left unto us a very small remnant, we should have been as Sodom, and we should have been like unto Gomorrah.

Fulfillment: Rom. 9:29. And as Esaias said before, Except the Lord of

Sabaoth had left us a seed, we had been as Sodoma, and been made like unto Gomorraha.

Prophecy: Isa. 8:14. And he shall be for a sanctuary; but for a stone of stumbling and a rock of offence to both the houses of Israel, for a gin and for a snare to the inhabitants of Jerusalem.

Fulfillment: Rom. 9:33. As it is written, Behold, I lay in Sion a stumblingstone and rock of offence; and whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.

Prophecy: Lev. 18:5. Ye shall therefore keep my statutes, and my judgments; which if a man do, he shall live in them; I am the Lord.

Fulfillment: Rom. 10:5. For Moses describeth the righteousness which is of the law, That the man which doeth those things shall live by them.

Prophecy: Isa. 28:16. Therefore thus saith the Lord God, Behold I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation; he that believeth shall not make haste.

Fulfillment: Rom. 10:11. For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.

- Brother W. E. Bashor

867 Lorna Dr., Glen Ellen, Calif. 95442

STOP AND THINK

We sing: "How Great Thou Art."

Just how great is He in our lives? Does He have first place?

We sing: "Blest be the Tie that Binds."

Are we bound by His love and guidance?

We sing: "Amazing Grace."

Is His grace sufficient for you?

We sing: "The Bible tells Me so."

Do we study and believe and live by it?

We sing: "Bringing in the Sheaves."

Just how hard are we working to bring in the lost ones?

We sing: "I Love to Tell the Story."

Do we spread the gospel?

We sing: "Just a Closer Walk with Thee."

How close do we walk?

We sing: "Sweet Hour of Prayer."

How long do we spend in prayer?

We sing: "What a Friend We Have in Jesus."

Do we treat Him as our friend?

We sing: "You'll Never Walk Alone."

Are we walking with Jesus?

- Sister Viola Broadwater

THE LITTLE RED CHURCH

There's a little red church by the side of the road,
In a little town, named Englewood,
In that little church many times we stood
And preached the Gospel to the people of God.
This little church is a wonderful place
From my memory, time cannot efface,
Of the many times we have met for prayer
And the many times we worshiped together there.
I often think of by-gone days, when we met together to sing and praise
In the little Red Church by the side of the road
As the Church that was bought by Jesus' blood.
I love that little Red Church by the side of the road,
For there I have many times preached God's Word.
And we've sang together those good old songs,
Which fill us with joy as we travel along.
But many from that little Red Church have gone
Out away from us, into the great beyond,
To a glorious Place that is bright and fair,
To a home that is out in the great somewhere.
So may this little Red Church prosper and grow.
From the seed each Brother and Sister may sow,
And may each one be careful what kind of seed
That they may sow, either in word or deed.
So dear Brother and Sister, always be true
To the little Red Church in all that you do,
To build her up and make her strong
For the good of all who will go along.

- Brother Joseph P. Robbins
Selected by Sister Maxine Surbey



Tension is driving with the brakes on.



Ever since the great depression, millions of people have tried everything except faith in God, work, and good manners, and they aren't doing so well. "With all thy getting, get understanding," saith the Lord.

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BIBLE MONITOR

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NO. 20

"For the faith once for all delivered to the saints."

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and
Scriptural in practice.

OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all
the world and preach the gospel.

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

FATHER OF MERCIES, IN THY WORD

Father of mercies, in thy word
What endless glory shines!
Forever be thy name ador'd
For these celestial lines.

Here may the wretched sons of want
Exhaustless riches find;
Riches above what earth can grant,
And lasting as the mind.

Oh, may these heav'nly pages be
My ever dear delight;
And still new beauties may I see,
And still increasing light!

Divine Instructor, gracious Lord,
Be thou forever near;
Teach me to love thy sacred word,
And view my Savior there.

- Miss Anne Steele

PILATE'S WRITING

On the cross above the head of Jesus, Pilate had these words written, "Jesus of Nazareth, The King of the Jews." The Jews, who had persuaded Pilate to allow them to crucify Jesus, objected to these words. When they made their objection to Pilate, his answer was, "What I have written I have written." John 19:22. We are taken aback at the firmness of Pilate's reply. This same Pilate had tried to wash his hands of this whole affair. Earlier he had been pliant; now he was firm. He had sought to release Jesus when he could find no fault in Him but relented when the spectre of Caesar's lost friendship was threatened by the Jews. The writing above Jesus' head he would not change. He was emphatic. "What I have written I have written."

The words that were so offensive to the Jews were, "Jesus of Nazareth, The King of the Jews." They proposed that Pilate should write that "he said, he was king of the Jews." There was more in the line Pilate had written than perhaps any of them realized. Pilate had examined Jesus and found no fault in Him. To the Jews Jesus had come as their long-expected King - their Messiah, but due to their dullness and sinfulness they had failed to realize who He was. They had rejected Him. They had delivered Him to Pilate to be crucified. They declared that Caesar was their only king. They were rejecting Jesus, the very King of the Jews in favor of the god of this world, personified for them by Caesar. They were so completely devoted to their king that they would crucify Jesus. Are we as totally dedicated to Jesus, our King, in our daily activities as we are when we sing,

King of my life, I crown thee now,
Thine shall the glory be;

THE BIBLE MONITOR

OCTOBER 15, 1975

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The compliant Pilate seems to us, weak. The world looks upon the Church much the same way. The Church is thought weak because it is often composed of women, her numbers are small, she is dedicated to doing good in an evil world and she is defenseless and nonresistant. The course of the Church is not only seen as weakness but also seems unreasonable to the world. Here is where determination following supposed weakness like Pilate's is needed. Christians should be determined to stand for right.

Our motto could well be, "What we have chosen, we have chosen." Pilate was firm in his refusal to change what he had written. The Christian must be firm in his determination to stand by his Christian profession. In choosing to give our heart to the Lord and our hand to the Church we have made a decided choice. It is not a light matter. This choice has ramifications not only upon our life in the world but also our soul's destiny beyond this world.

Upon our coming to the Church we each made serious vows. Before we cast them aside lightly, we might consider the wise man's words, "When thou vowest a vow unto God, defer not to pay it; for he hath no pleasure in fools: pay that which thou has vowed. Better is it that thou shouldest not vow, than that thou shouldest vow and not pay." Ecclesiastes 5:4-5. It would be better not to agree to join Church, nor to promise to renounce Satan and his pernicious ways than to go against that promise. We should live up to those promises with a great determination.

Jesus warned the Church at Laodicea that they should either be hot or cold but never lukewarm. Lukewarm water is good only to gargle with. When its purpose is accomplished it is spewed out. After a season of activity we enjoy a cold drink. When washing dishes or clothes, we desire hot water. Either hot or cold, water is useful but when lukewarm it is good only to be spewed out. The Christian's life must never be lukewarm but useful and dedicated in all its ways. The Christian needs to be very careful to keep the promises he made to man and God, when he became a Christian.

Satan has many schemes and pernicious ways to detract the Christian from fulfillment of his promises. Satan is subtle. He sets the sights and the thoughts of the world before us. Slowly and subtly we let down. The Jews wanted only that Pilate would change his writing so it would say, "he said, he was king of the Jews." It was a subtle difference but its meaning was as different as black from white. It is the little foxes that spoil the vines. The old fox would be trapped or driven away but the young are so cute and apparently harmless. So the Christian allows Satan's little foxes in his life, those little sins that aren't really dangerous, so he thinks. The Christian begins to think more like the world until he goes too far. The vows are broken.

Each has done right in coming to Christ and the Church. Now each must stand by it. There are so many little things in our homes, automobiles and clothing available to lure us from our determination to be a Plain People. So many "unnecessary appendages" present themselves that we rarely think of them until it is too late. When we promised to renounce Satan and his pernicious ways, included in that promise were his little, subtle, and apparently harmless ways.

Pilate was determined to retain his writing, "What I have written I have written." We should be just as determined to say, "What I have chosen I have chosen." Have you made the decided choice? Are you determined to stand by the Right?

SPIRITUAL FOOD

What is spiritual food? We know that there is a natural body and we know there is a spiritual body. What we eat naturally is the fuel our bodies use to keep them alive, grow, develop and move about. But what of the spiritual body? Isn't it reasonable that it too needs food so that it can grow and develop?

Jesus said, ". . . Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of Man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you." This we do symbolically at communion, but there is more to life than symbols. Man is in the flesh and it seems necessary that he have natural signs or symbols to understand the spiritual. Jesus also said, "I am the living bread which came down from heaven; if any man eat of this bread, he shall live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world." From these words we can be assured that Jesus is that spiritual food that came down from heaven and if we eat of this food or bread we will live forever. We cannot expect to live forever naturally, so it must refer to the spiritual body. "God is a Spirit; and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth." We must develop and receive a spiritual body if we want to see God, because it is only if we are like Him that we will be able to see Him.

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." John 1:1. "It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing; the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life." By these scriptures we see that Jesus is the Word and the words He speaks are spirit and life. Would it not be reasonable to say that the words of Jesus were spiritual food? Again, Jesus says, "As the living Father hath sent me, and I live by the Father; so he that eateth me, even he shall live by me." If we eat the bread of life, or in other words assimilate the words of Jesus, our spiritual life will grow by the power of Jesus. We must get close to Christ. So close in fact that there is a oneness, a constant fellowship; we must abide in Him. ". . . He that

abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son." II John 9.

"Behold, I stand at the door, and knock; If any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me." We do not very often eat with strangers but when we do it is, usually embarrassing. Jesus proposes to be a close friend, "one that sticketh closer than a brother." He wants us to be a part of the family of God. Hearing the voice of Jesus can only mean to live by his word.

Now, we know that food causes our bodies to live and whatever our decision is, our bodies will act according. Here seems to me to be a great mystery. If we live by the Word of God and develop a healthy spiritual life, the actions of this natural body will be influenced by the spiritual, so it will do good instead of evil. What a transformation this would cause if all the world would feed on that Bread of Life that came from Heaven. It costs nothing but our own will. It is given freely. How much we pay for food for the natural man! How we desire the very best! Why can't man put forth the same effort for his soul's welfare? I sometimes wonder what we would see if we could view our soul as God sees it. Would it be a healthy, glorious, spiritual being; or would it be a poor, stained, sick, or shriveled-up being about to die? I know if we could see ourselves as God sees us, we most certainly would change our ways. God has told us by his word, shown us by examples, and given His life on the cross, that we might grow into a glorious being, but only if we partake of that Heavenly manna which is Christ, the Lord. We are without excuse.

- Brother Rudy Cover

THE CHRISTIAN'S SIXTH SENSE

ESP - extrasensory perception - is much talked about and often written about. It is a supernatural ability to perceive future events or the location of objects, etc. It is closely connected with mind-reading and such like. ESP goes beyond what our normal senses can tell us and has been called a sixth sense. As a Christian, you do not have ESP, but you do have a sixth sense, a very important one, which you need.

The Holy Spirit moving in our hearts gives us a special perception, or understanding, of life which goes beyond our natural perception. Our senses of taste, touch, sight, smell and hearing are important to the natural life, but the Christian's sixth sense is important spiritually. This is our "sense of responsibility."

"He has no sense of responsibility," is said of those who will not do what they should. Each of us has certain responsibilities, but without a sense of our responsibility, we will not properly take care of them. Christians have many responsibilities to God and man, which the Holy

Spirit reveals to us. We are not to quench the Spirit but respond by carrying out the things we know we should do, for "...every one of us shall give account of himself to God." Romans 14:12.

It is our responsibility to study God's Word so we will know what He wants us to do. "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." I Timothy 2:15. After we know what pleases God, then we have a responsibility to do what we know. "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin." James 4:17.

It is our responsibility to keep all our promises to God and man, to tell the truth, to be honest in all our dealings. This applies even to the little things. An appointment with a friend needs to be kept just as surely as one with your doctor. If you don't keep it; you have lied, your promise meant nothing. Sometimes we cannot keep our promises to man because of unforeseen circumstances; but we must be careful about excusing ourselves from keeping a promise. "Better is it that thou shouldst not vow, than that thou shouldst vow and not pay." Ecclesiastes 5:5. Promises, especially, to God, should not be taken lightly.

It is required of us that we use wisely the substance God has blessed us with. We have a responsibility to those who need help physically, as well as spiritually. "...He that hath two coats, let him impart to him that hath none; and he that hath meat, let him do likewise." Luke 3:11. This doesn't leave any room for selfishness, does it? "It is more blessed to give than to receive." Natural blessings rightly used will secure us treasures in Heaven, the kind of treasure that will last.

You will have a sense of responsibility to examine yourself (not others!) periodically to see whether you are in the faith. It is your responsibility to correct anything wrong. Even though it isn't common knowledge, God knows about any sin present. Spots of sin need to be removed so the heart is pure. Self-examination is necessary to keep us unspotted from the world, so we are able to live true to the life and work God has called us to.

As a Christian, you will have a deep sense of responsibility to tell others of the way of truth. Our daily living should be a testimony to them which honors God, and demonstrates this way. This requires keeping the spirit of the law, not just the letter. Mere mechanical obedience is not enough.

Having a sense of responsibility is good; carrying it out because you want to is much better. Doing something only because it is a duty makes it a drudgery and deprives you of the blessing God wants you to have. When your heart has been cleansed and filled with God's love, your responsibilities will become a privilege, not just a duty. Love and responsibility combined makes our walk a real blessing, and an honor to God. Let God give you this sixth sense, a true sense of the responsibility which is yours.

- Sister Eileen Broadwater

ANSWERED PRAYERS

Part 24

In this series of articles on Answered Prayers I have referred to recorded answered prayers; further articles will be likewise. But this article will be in reference to our answered prayers.

In Hebrews 4:15-16 we read, "For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need."

Notice some of the statements in these verses. We have an high priest who is touched by the feeling of our infirmities. He knows when we are ill. He knows when we are problemated. And He cares.

The reason He knows is He was tempted in every way we are tempted. He was able to resist temptation. He sinned not.

He has promised us in I Cor. 10:13, "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it."

Because He knows our problems and vexations, having endured them Himself, He invites us to come boldly to the throne of prayer. When we pray to Him, we confess our faults, our undoneness and we lay our burdens on Him. He understands. If we come in the right way to the altar of prayer, we will receive mercy and grace to help us in the time of need.

This invitation is extended to every firm believer.

John 6:37, "All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out."

I John 5:14, "And this is the confidence that we have in Him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us." The next verse strengthens verse 14. "And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him."

It behoves us to lead a consistent, daily prayer life. We are missing out on some of God's greatest blessings if we neglect it.

He can interpret our unuttered prayers. He understands the unspoken prayers that we may have on our minds at the midnight hour.

Enumerate in your own life and experience, the many prayers you have made to God, through our Lord Jesus Christ. When things changed for the better, did you just take it for granted or did you recognize the change as God's answer to your prayers?

Too often, yea, much too often, we do not in turn thank God for His answers.

In closing, if you do not practice an ordered prayer life, do so. We need Jesus every hour. In John 6:37, we have these words of Jesus,

Himself, "... Him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out." That is His promise to us. Let each go to Him more often in prayer, in behalf of the Church and in behalf of his own soul.

- Brother Paul R. Myers
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QUEEN ESTHER'S GREAT COURAGE

Part 2

After the wrath of King Ahasuerus had softened, he realized what he had done. He still remembered his wife, Queen Vashti, and how she had refused to obey the King's command. The Jewish Historian, Josephus, says, "That when the king's anger was appeased and he would be reconciled to Vashti the queen, but by the Constitution of the government, he could not go contrary against his own ratification of laws."

The King's Council took a survey of the provinces of his kingdom to search for fair young virgins, to be brought to Shushan the Palace. The King would choose one of the many young maidens to be queen, instead of Vashti. With this the king was well pleased.

There was a certain man, a Jew of the tribe of Benjamin, named Mordecai, who had been taken captive from his home land, Palestine, by Nebuchadnezzar, King of Babylon. This man had an orphan cousin (his uncle's daughter) who was born during the exile. Her parents were both dead so Mordecai treated her as if she had been his own daughter.

She was distinguished by her great personality and beauty. This young maiden's name was Esther. She was one of the captives, a Jewess, and a sharer with her people in their bondage. Esther was beautiful, fair of form and of good countenance. Her wisdom and virtue were her greatest beauty.

The maidens came unto Shushan the palace. Before it was Esther's turn to go before the king, she found favor with the keeper of the maidens. "The maiden pleased him and she obtained kindness of him." Esther 2:9a.

Esther had not shown the identity of her people, the Jews, for Mordecai said she should not. He bid her to conceal her parentage and not to tell her nationality. Since she had been born in the province of Shushan, all took her for a native Persian.

Mordecai was Esther's guardian. How tender he was with her, as if she had been his own child. How respectful she was to him.

The king preferred Esther over all the other young maidens. Who would have thought that a Jewish captive, an orphan, was born to be a Queen, an Empress? By this, we can see how the great hand of God

was beginning to bring to pass favor with the King for the people of God.

The King loved Esther above all the women. She obtained grace and favor, in his sight, above all the other virgins. The king set the royal crown upon her head and made her queen instead of Vashti.

- To be continued

Brother Clarence Gehr
Dallas Center, Iowa 50063

THE TONGUE

A little member - but, behold, how great a fire a little member is able to kindle. More damage has been done by this member than armies inflict on mankind. It causes most of the trouble in the home, the Church and the business and social life. Would things ever be different if those hard and unkind words had never been spoken. Would not our homes be more like Heaven and our Churches have greater power with God, if a guard were placed on this little member.

Notice the different kinds of tongues - the tongue of dishonor, the tongue of untruth, the tongue of idle words, the tongue of contention, the tongue of discord, the tongue of slander, the tongue of suspicion, the tongue of profanity, the tongue of honor, the tongue of praise, the tongue of peace and many more.

Surely, nothing is more destructive than a lying tongue. We are expected to be truthful in all our ways.

Talebearing is like breaking the shell of an egg; it can never be mended. As Christians, our time should be spent doing good, telling the lost about Jesus.

The tongue of contention sets brother against brother. The Bible states, "Blessed are the peacemakers. . ." However, not every person is a peacemaker. Many, by their words, are troublemakers. "A fool's lips enter into contention, and his mouth calleth for strokes." Proverbs 18:6.

The tongue of suspicion - "The tongue of the wise useth knowledge aright; but the mouth of fools poureth out foolishness." Proverbs 15:2. We have all seen some tongue of suspicion cast a reflection upon the morality of an innocent soul. "The words of a talebearer are as wounds, and they go down into the innermost parts of the belly." Proverbs 18:8. "Thou shalt not go up and down as a talebearer among thy people; neither shalt thou stand against the blood of thy neighbor; I am the Lord." Leviticus 19:16.

Oh! for more tongues to sing His praise. "Let every thing that hath breath praise the Lord." We often wonder why souls are not being saved in our Churches. When God's people lay aside the tongues of dishonor and receive the tongues of praise then sinners will be converted.

We also need the praying tongue. Daniel prayed three times every day. Suppose, when Peter was cast into prison, the Christians had failed to pray. Suppose instead they had been out in the community spreading slander and bearing tales? You may never be called into God's ministry, yet He expects us to spread the Gospel.

If you have permitted this "little member" to get the best of you, come to the altar now. Ask God for His help in crucifying this little member and in making it a tongue for honor and praise.

- Sister Viola Broadwater

CHILDREN'S PAGE

PHARAOH WANTS TO COMPROMISE

Exodus 10

Pharaoh, king of Egypt wanted his own way. He wasn't used to being told what to do. God had caused many terrible things to happen in Egypt because Pharaoh would not let God's people go. At last Pharaoh became desperate and said, "Go and worship your God but leave your women and children home." Pharaoh was like some people who are willing to obey God part way but want to have their own way too. So God caused another disaster to come on Egypt. Locusts, which we call grasshoppers, came up over the land by the millions. There were so many that the sun didn't shine and it got dark. The locusts ate every green thing and all the fruit from the trees; there wasn't a green leaf or a blade of grass left in all the land of Egypt. Pharaoh called for Moses and said, "I have sinned against God - forgive me and intreat the Lord to take away this terrible plague." And God caused a mighty wind to come which took away the locusts and dumped them into the Red Sea. There was not even one locust that remained in Egypt. But Pharaoh would not let the children of Israel go.

Then God caused darkness to come upon Egypt. It was so dark that it could be felt. The Egyptians were so terrified that they were afraid to go anywhere. They couldn't see anything or anybody. Now here is a strange thing: The Bible says that while the Egyptians had darkness, the children of Israel had light in their houses.

Pharaoh wanted to compromise again and said, "Go and serve the Lord; everybody can go - but leave your herds and your flocks." Moses replied, "Our cattle must also go; not a hoof shall be left behind." And Pharaoh still would not let God's people go and he said to Moses, "Get away from me; if you see my face again you shall die." And Moses said, "You have spoken well. I will see your face no more."

God wants us to obey all that He tells us to do. Are you like Pharaoh?

Do you want to compromise and only do part of what God asks you to do? Do you only do that because you feel you have to, to escape God's judgments? God wants a willing heart. God has blessed us and done so much for us. It should be a joy to serve Him in everything.

- Brother Rudy Cover

WHAT THE CHURCH HAS HEARD

L. W. Teeter - 1908

continued from August 1st Issue. . .

After the descent of the Holy Spirit, Peter testifies of Jesus' majesty with the Father, saying: "Those things which God before had showed by the mouth of all his prophets, that Christ should suffer, he hath so fulfilled. Repent ye therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord; And he shall send Jesus Christ, who before was preached unto you: Whom the heavens must receive, until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began. For Moses truly said unto the fathers, A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear in all things whatsoever he shall say unto you; and it shall come to pass, that every soul, which will not hear that prophet, shall be destroyed from among the people." (Acts 3:18-23.) To the Hebrews, it was said, also, that "God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds; who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high." (Heb. 1:1-3) God has also shown the church, that saving grace can be possessed only in deep humility, simplicity and self-denial. Through the deepest humility of his Son, God has made his grace, "that bringeth salvation, to appear unto all men," teaching them, that denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, they "should live soberly, righteously, and godly in this present world; looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works." (Titus 2:11-14)

God said of his Son, before his birth, "He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest." (Luke 1:32) He was in the form of God, and equal with God; but he took on himself the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men; he humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. (Philpp. 2:6-8)

Consistent with his humble mission into the world, God knowing that

his Son should be the Founder, and Head of his church on earth, he so provided that his nativity, manner of life, character, and teaching, should preserve inviolate the great fundamental principles of humility, simplicity and self-denial, that the church he would establish, might be able to receive atonement; and that those principles might, in turn, ever preserve the church against all ungodliness and worldly lusts.

Accordingly, God selected the human parentage of his Son, from the most humble citizens, of the despised, rejected town of Nazareth. He was born in the humble town of Bethlehem; and was wrapped in 'swaddling clothes,' and laid in a manger, indicating the absence of all pomp and vain display, when it was known that the new-born child, was an infant King. Again, the annunciation of his birth was not made to the Jewish Sanhedrin in a decorated court of the temple, in the capital city Jerusalem; but to the humble shepherds, who were faithfully watching their sheep, in the field by night. Again, God, through his Son, has shown the church that true greatness exists only in great littleness and simplicity. At the age of twelve years, when in the temple with the Jewish doctors, Jesus made a striking demonstration for the future church, of the fact that it is possible for perfect simplicity and humility to clothe a noble character, having deep wisdom, great understanding, and a burning zeal to be about the heavenly Father's business; and that it is possible for anyone, under such conditions, to increase in wisdom and to grow in favor with God and man; and enjoy a full measure of God's grace. (Luke 2:40-52) Again when Jesus entered upon his public ministry, and wanted to be baptized, he came to John, his humble forerunner, whom God had sent from Heaven to baptize him.

John's nativity was also as miraculous, and his life as simple and peculiar as was that of Jesus. His raiment was camel's hair, and a leathern girdle about his loins; and his meat was locusts and wild honey. (Matt. 3:4) Thus we can see that God's way of inducting the Great Founder of his church, into his official position as such, was by the employment of the simplest and most humble agencies; and that all of them signified God's design that the principles of simplicity, deep humility, and self-denial, must be as prominently maintained in the polity of the church as founded, as they were in the Founder, and in the means he employed in founding it.

Again, during his entire ministry, Christ associated most with the humble, - the common people, - even with little children, all of whom he loved!

Thank the Lord! Instead of making his home in proud Jerusalem, he would retire to the humble village Bethany, and lodge with a broken-hearted, parentless family. Again, when Jesus chose his twelve disciples, he selected them from the common classes. A number of them were humble fishermen, men who cared not for worldly reputation and riches.

- To be continued

Selected from Two Centureis of the Church of the Brethren

NEWS ITEMS

ENGLEWOOD, OHIO

The Church has been made happy during the past year when three souls have been added to the Church. We pray that they may always be found doing the Master's will and remain faithful until our Lord's return.

Also two deacons have been chosen, namely, Bro. Paul Stump and Bro. Jan Heisey. May we all work together united in the Spirit.

Our Lovefeast will be Saturday, October 25, beginning at 10 a.m., services again at 2 p.m. with the Lovefeast at 7 p.m. Remember these meetings and we pray that all those who take part may be made stronger in the Lord.

Sister Della Klepinger, Cor.

SWALLOW FALLS, MARYLAND

On August 17, Bro. Jack Snyder of the Lititz Congregation came for a week of revival. The spiritual messages he delivered while here were truly inspiring and uplifting.

On August 23 we held our annual Love Feast service with 27 surrounding the Lord's tables with Bro. Snyder officiating. Elder David Ebling was also present with us.

There was great rejoicing on Saturday when one Brother was added to the Church by baptism and an aged Brother was reinstated.

Please pray for Swallow Falls Congregation that we be faithful in this day when the church-world is falling away from the love of Christ to the love of pleasure and lust. May we study the Word daily and pray much. Ever watchful of our lives and conduct that they show the love of the truth, Christ and our fellowmen. So the Lord, when He comes can say, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joys of thy Lord," rather than "Depart from me, ye workers of iniquity." We wish to thank Bro. Snyder for his efforts, and we pray that the Lord bless him and his family as he endeavors to bring the word to other congregations.

We at Swallow Falls, appreciate visitors and thank all who came to our meetings and the visiting ministers who have come into our midst and preached for us at various times.

We invite all to come, services each Sunday except fifth Sundays.

- Sister Ruth M. Snyder, Cor.

QUINTER, KANSAS

We are planning to have a revival meeting beginning November 5th and closing with a Love Feast November 16th and 17th. Elder Hayes Reed from Modesto, California is to be our evangelist.

We request all pray for a real revival in the heart of every Christian and that souls may be saved.

This summer one precious soul decided to follow Christ. She was baptized and went on her way, rejoicing.

Sister Ethel Whitmer, Cor.

PLEASANT HOME, CALIFORNIA

The Lord willing, Pleasant Home Congregation will have revival meetings October 26 through November 2. Elder Dean St. John will be the evangelist.

We extend a cordial invitation to all of our members and friends to come and enjoy the fellowship at this time.

Sister Esther M. Cover, Cor.



Duties are ours, events are God's. - Cecil.



Some people are as changeable and untrustworthy as the brook in its windings and meanderings through the meadow or mountain. They, like it, always avoid the unfavorable aspects in a given path. They change, too, with the weather; they freeze up or melt. Job found this out to his sorrow, and so will we! "It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man." God is ever the same (Hebrews 13:8).

- Pameii



You can smile yourself out of difficulties but you can never fight your way through; you can dismiss your difficulties with laughter when you cannot rout them with argument. No one can resist the friendly soul. Love disarms the critic and humility overpowers the boastful. The man who is honest and truthful can afford to wait for his vindication. Love never faileth. - Sunshine

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

FOR NOVEMBER

Nov. 2 - The Perishing of the Outward Man/ Renewal of the Inward.
II Cor. 4:1-18

Nov. 9 - A new Creature in Christ. II Cor. 5:1-21

Nov. 16 - Separation. II Cor. 6:1-18

Nov. 23 - THANKSGIVING II Cor. 9:1-15

Nov. 30 - Godly Sorrow Works Repentance to Salvation.
II Cor. 7:1-16

QUESTIONS:

- (1) If we cause the outward man to perish by renouncing sin, what then should take place within us? II Cor. 4:6,16
- (2) Why should our natural lives take second place? II Cor. 5:1
- (3) How can we be made the righteousness of God? II Cor. 5:21
- (4) What is meant by being separate? II Cor. 6:17 Does this mean we should have nothing to do with sinners?
- (5) What is the difference between a worldly sorrow and a godly sorrow? II Cor. 7:9-11
- (6) What is God's "unspeakable gift?" II Cor. 9:15/ John 3:16



Inflation has affected everything except the wages of sin - Sunshine



A dear old Quaker, distinguished for her youthful appearance, was asked what she used to preserve her charms. She replied sweetly: "I use for the lips, truth; for the voice, prayer; for the eyes, pity; for the hands, charity; for the figure, uprightness, and for the heart, love."

- Jerry Fleishman

DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR NOVEMBER 1975 COME

Memory Verse, Hosea 6:3 Then shall we know, if we follow on to know the Lord; his going forth is prepared as the morning; and he shall come unto us as the rain, as the latter and former rain unto the earth.

Sat. 1 - Hosea 6:1-11

Memory Verse Hosea 10:12 Sow to yourselves in righteousness, reap in mercy; break up your fallow ground; for it is time to seek the Lord, till he come and rain righteousness upon you.

Sun. 2 - Hosea 10:1-15

Mon. 3 - Hosea 12:1-16

Tues. 4 - Joel 1:1-20

Wed. 5 - Joel 2:1-32

Thurs. 6 - Joel 3:1-21

Fri. 7 - Amos 4:1-13

Sat. 8 - Amos 5:1-27

Memory Verse, Micah 4:2 And many nations shall come, and say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths; for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

Sun. 9 - Amos 8:1-14

Mon. 10 - Amos 9:1-15

Tues. 11 - Obad. 1:1-21

Wed. 12 - Jon. 1:1-17

Thurs. 13 - Jon. 4:1-11

Fri. 14 - Micah 3:1-12

Sat. 15 - Micah 4:1-13

Memory Verse, Micah 5:2 But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.

Sun. 16 - Micah 5:1-15

Mon. 17 - Micah 6:1-16

Tues. 18 - Nahum 1:1-15

Wed. 19 - Hab. 2:1-20

Thurs. 20 - Hab. 3:1-19

Fri. 21 - Zeph. 1:1-18

Sat. 22 - Zeph. 2:1-15

Memory Verse, Deut. 8:10 When thou hast eaten and art full, then thou shalt bless the Lord thy God for the good land which he hath given thee.

Sun. 23 - Hag. 1:1-15

Mon. 24 - Hag. 2:1-23

Tues. 25 - Zec. 1:1-21

Wed. 26 - Zec. 2:1-13

Thurs. 27 - Deut. 8:1-20

Fri. 28 - Zec. 6:1-15

Sat. 29 - Zec. 7:1-14

Memory Verse Hab. 2:3 For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie; though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry.

Sun. 30 - Zec. 8:1-23

Paul R. Myers
Box 117
Greentown, Ohio 44630

BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LIII

NOVEMBER 1, 1975

NO. 21

"For the faith once for all delivered to the saints."

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

THE CHOICE IS YOURS

Which way will you choose to follow each day;
The broad road to Hell or the Heaven-bound way?
The decision is yours; which way will you choose?
Choose wisely, my friend, or your soul you will lose.

The broad road attracts you with glitter and gold,
With fun and frolic; yet it's empty and cold.
There is heartache and misery; oh, what a price!
Before you start down it, you'd better think twice.

The way to Heaven may look rough and steep,
The problems you face may cause you to weep.
But God's way will bring you great joy within.
He gives peace and love, and freedom from sin.

The broad way brings death; there's sorrow and strife.
God's way brings you peace and endless life.
Which way will you choose to follow each day?
Choose now; choose wisely; please do not delay!

- Sister Eileen Broadwater

BRETHREN

"And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch." Acts 11:26. The followers of Jesus were not given the universally-known name of "Christian" until about eight years after His Resurrection. Until that time and ever since, they have had the name, "Brethren." Peter, when preaching on Pentecost, addressed the throng before him as "men and brethren" thus distinguishing between believers and non-believers. "Men" he could apply to all members of the human race collectively but "brethren" could only be applied to those who believed on Jesus, repented of their sins and were baptized for remission of those sins.

The brethren were now prepared to live Christ-like lives. This way of life eventually won for them the name, "Christian" - Christ's one (one who lived in imitation of his Lord). They were to be as brethren in the natural family: all of equal position. Each child, though differing in individual characteristics, personality, talents and behavior, is loved the same as the other children in the family by his parents.

Jesus said, ". . . for one is your Master, even Christ, and all ye are brethren." Matt. 23:8b. Jesus never denied His Heavenly Authority during His earthly ministry, even though He lived an humble, unpretentious life and even gave Himself to be sacrificed on the Cross. In the Sermon on the Mount, He various times altered the teachings of old by the words, "But I say unto you . . ." The multitude marveled for He spoke as one having authority. After His Resurrection He would claim for Himself "all power in Heaven and in earth"; and there was no dissent from the God of Heaven. Jesus humbled Himself to be the servant of the

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men who should actually serve Him. During His institution of the Love-feast Service, He washed His disciples' feet; thereby giving them an example. Even in this hour of humility He spoke of Himself as being their "Lord and Master." All of His commands, therefore; are established by the highest power possible. Among His commands was this: that they should be brethren, not masters over one another.

The occasion of this discourse heightens the strength of His Command. He was in the bailiwick of the Pharisees. These pseudo-religious men desired not only the name "Rabbi" (Master) but wanted their pious deeds and pronouncements to be regarded by all. Theirs was not a life of humility or commonality. Jesus did not want His followers to imitate these vain-glorious and harsh men despite their professions of religion.

Jesus' desire was for His Own to imitate His own humility in their lives. Even though leaders are necessary to accomplish the work of the Church, there is no room in the Church for those who would set themselves above their fellow-believers. There is no room in the Church for an elite who, by their education or predisposition, would direct the Church's activities and members like politicians or dictators. Jesus, the Master, died for the entire Church; His commands are for all whether they occupy a trusted position in the Church or they sit in the least conspicuous seat in the meeting house.

It is no accident that Jesus would choose the name "Brethren" for His followers. The Christian life is not a life of individuality, of aloneness, but a life of fellowship and a life dependent upon one another. "Brethren" is a plural word denoting more than one person. His disciples together make the journey over the uneven pathway from Spiritual birth to the "River Jordan." Encouragement, admonition, help (temporal or spiritual), and fellowship are some of the ways believers fulfill their brotherly duties. The Holy Kiss commanded five times in the New Testament is the outward manifestation of this inward relationship. In fact, all the ordinances of the Church are designed for the participation of an unlimited number of believers never for just one. The Lovefeast ordinances could not be carried out by one person; there must be at least two to wash feet, the Lord's Supper would not be a common meal if no one shared it and there would be no common union in the bread and the cup if there were none to be united with.

The union, these ordinances are designed to illustrate, is based on God's love. It was His love that brought Jesus to earth to become propitiation for your sins and mine. Once we have accepted that love-gift and united with the family of God - The Church; each member is the recipient of the same gift - each is united in God's love.

"Brethren" is more than a name, it is a God-ordained way of life. Are you one of the brethren?

CHILDREN'S PAGE

PHARAOH SAYS, "GO"

Exodus 11, 12

Pharaoh was a stubborn man. Despite all the plagues God brought on Egypt, Pharaoh would not obey God. But God knew how to humble Pharaoh. Pharaoh had a son who was his firstborn. I think he was a very good looking boy. He was the prince of Egypt and someday would take his father's place as ruler of Egypt - if he lived. Pharaoh was proud of his son. He probably thought more of his son than anything on earth. This boy was given the best of everything - clothes of gold, silver, jewels and the finest cloth that could be had. He ate the best of food and had servants who bathed him and rubbed him with the finest of oil and perfumes. The best teachers in Egypt taught him from little up to be king of Egypt.

God said, "Every firstborn in Egypt shall die, from Pharaoh on his throne unto the firstborn of servants - even all the firstborn of beasts."

The children of Israel ate the passover - the last meal that they would eat in Egypt. God told them exactly how He wanted them to do it. Also, they were to put the blood of the lamb on the sides and top of the door frames of their homes. God said, "When I see the blood I will pass over you." God would not destroy the firstborn in Israel - only the Egyptians.

At midnight it happened: All the firstborn of the Egyptians died and Pharaoh's son died. Pharaoh was beside himself and he sent word to Moses, "Go and serve the Lord as you have said. Take your wives and children - your flocks and herds and get out." And then Pharaoh said, "And bless me also." How do you suppose Pharaoh expected the Lord to bless him when he had been so stubborn?

The Egyptian people were so eager to please the Israelites that they gave them their gold, silver, jewels and clothing. "And the children of Israel spoiled the Egyptians." Small pay, indeed, for the years of slavery they had endured.

Do you think God means what He says? In reading about Pharaoh and the children of Israel, we can surely be convinced that God's Word is true and He expects us to hear and obey Him.

- Brother Rudy Cover



Some grumble because they don't get what's coming to them, others because they do.

CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S RELATION TO THE SIMPLE LIFE

Ruth Drake

Women have a larger part to play in the simple life than many of them ever realize. Many, many of us would not be enjoying the peace that comes from true service to Christ in real simplicity if we had not received the right example from our mothers. Would to God that every mother realized how far her teachings carried through her children. If she does not teach both by word and example respect and love for Christ's commands she cannot hope to see them carried out by the coming generation. We as mothers, must, with God's help, build such a stronghold around our young people that they may be able to resist the call of the world when they are once left to decide their own questions of right and wrong.

I wonder what the effect is on our children if they know we do not believe in bobbed hair because the New Testament is opposed to it and yet we bob the babies' and smaller girls' hair. We probably think, "Oh, well, they are little and they will let it grow out when they get big." But I am afraid Satan smiles to himself when ever he gets a Christian mother to think that way about bobbed hair. Some say that if we are too strict with children when they are young, they will be more likely to rebel at the commands of the Bible than if we allow them more freedom. Such is the exception, rather than the rule for we cannot expect children to believe what they have not been taught. If Christian women everywhere were following Christ's commands regarding the simple life it would be a wonderful incentive for the younger girls to fall in line. It is the half-hearted service and the attempt of so many to be Christians, and yet follow all the fashions of the world that lead our young people astray. Suppose a mother talks "the simple life" to her children and yet when she makes her own or their clothes she follows all the latest styles, and adds all the unnecessary trimmings Madam Fashion demands. You can answer, without any aid, what the result will be. The simple life does not mean anything if practice does not proceed teaching.

The story was told recently of a Dunkard mother, who, with her daughter, was entertaining a lady of the world. During the conversation, they were admiring the lady's hat. The mother told her daughter to put it on. She then told her how nice she looked in it. The result was that in a short time the daughter was wearing a hat. Who was to blame? If the Christian women of today who are lamenting the fact that the Dunkard Church is getting away from the simple life would only do more by exam-

ple it would help in future years. Can we expect our girls to keep their character clean if we as Christian mothers allow them to wear the sleeveless dresses and immodestly low necks or do the same ourselves? How can they know the danger of wearing such clothing if we sanction their actions and do not explain? If they go wrong at whose door do you think God will place the blame?

Dear Christian mothers, let's make the most of those few short years when the boys and girls are entirely under our care. The old adage, "As the twig is bent, so is the tree inclined," is not so far wrong after all. The Catholics say, "Give them a child for the first six years of its life and they are sure of it being a Catholic the rest of its life." If that is true of them, what is the matter with our training mothers and fathers, too.

Now, dear Christian women who are not mothers, don't think you have no responsibility. Your influence is being thrown on all sides and some younger girl is watching you, thinking to herself, that you are her ideal and if you sidestep, she is apt to do the same. May God help each of us as Christian women to see the responsibility which Christ has placed upon each of us. He depends on His children here in this world to carry out His work. How it grieves our mother-hearts when our children disobey! How much more must it grieve Christ's great loving heart when we disobey.

Selected from May 1, 1926, Bible Monitor
by Brother Paul R. Myers

THE DEVIL'S DELIGHT

It is strange to think that the Devil, who causes so much trouble and heartache, could be delighted by anything; but he is. That which brings a great deal of pleasure or satisfaction is a delight. To God and His children, everything good gives them much pleasure and satisfaction, but the Devil delights in just the opposite, that which is evil. Anything which displeases God is the Devil's delight.

God wants us close to Him so we can truly commune with Him and worship Him. The Devil knows that sin prevents this and delights in drawing us away from God into sin. He likes us to believe we are right when we are wrong; he likes us to think that God means something different than what He has said. He likes to afflict us as he did Job, hoping we will blame God for it. If deception doesn't work, he will bring persecution in an effort to discourage us and get us to give up.

If we place anything or anyone first in our lives instead of God; if we

give man credit for what God has done, the Devil is delighted. When we are disobedient to God or others whom we should obey, the Devil is pleased. When we don't pray, when we don't study God's Word, when we get discouraged and lose our hope, who do you think is happy about it? Sitting in a worship service with our minds on our own affairs certainly doesn't please God; but it does please the Devil.

The Devil is delighted when we waste time which could be used to help others. If we are selfish, not sharing with those who have need, if we refuse to forgive, if we are proud, thinking we are better than others, Satan is delighted. If we think anyone is beyond spiritual help, he will delight in keeping us pessimistic when we should be prayerfully optimistic. Someone may need encouragement, guidance, or just a helping hand but if we say, "I don't have time to help," nothing pleases the Devil more. When we harm another with our careless talk, an insulting remark, or a half-truth, it brings heartache to that one, but joy to the Devil.

The Devil delights in keeping people trapped in sin. Whenever a sinner turns from sin to a life of peace and joy in Christ, it is a sad day for Satan. When you sin after you have had your heart cleansed, the Devil delights in getting you to think that you can't measure up to God's standards anyhow, so why try? But, when you obtain forgiveness through Christ, your Advocate, the victory is yours. The Devil has been defeated again.

Satan, or the Devil, is very powerful. He is called the "...god of this world..." in II Corinthians 4:4; and he likes to exalt himself as such. Satan desires to have us just as he desired to have Peter. He delights in exercising every bit of power he has over us. But remember, his power is directly controlled by God and will someday end entirely. God's armour (Eph. 6:11) will protect us from the Devil's power, but only believers have this protection. Unbelievers are already in Satan's grip.

The Bible says, "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you." James 4:7. Christ was manifested that He might destroy the works of the Devil. We need to know Christ in a personal way; accepting the salvation He has provided if we want to resist the Devil. The Devil and his works will be destroyed, and it is only by submitting to God that we can avoid being destroyed also. Rather than delight the Devil by sinning, let us, "...do good and to communicate forget not; for with such sacrifices God is well pleased." Hebrews 13:16.

- Sister Eileen Broadwater



Whether the cost of living goes up or down, the cost of sowing "wild oats" remains the same.

PROPHECY AND FULFILLMENT

Prophecy: Isa. 52:7-10, How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth! Thy watchman, shall lift up the voice; with the voice together shall they sing; for they shall see eye to eye, when the Lord shall bring again Zion. Break forth into joy, sing together, ye waste places of Jerusalem; for the Lord hath comforted his people, he hath redeemed Jerusalem. The Lord hath made bare his holy arm in the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of the Lord.

Fulfillment: Rom. 10:15, And how shall they preach, except they be sent? As it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!

Prophecy: Isa. 65:1-2, I am sought of them that asked not for me; I am found of them that sought me not; I said, Behold me, behold me, unto a nation that was not called by my name. I have spread out my hands all the day unto a rebellious people, which walketh in a way that was not good, after their own thoughts.

Fulfillment: Rom. 10:20-21, But Esaias is very bold, and saith, I was found of them that sought me not; I was made manifest unto them that asked not after me, but to Israel he saith, All day long I have stretched forth my hands unto a disobedient and gainsaying people.

Prophecy: I Kings 19:10, And he said, I have been very jealous for the Lord God of hosts; for the children of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thine altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword; and I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away.

Fulfillment: Rom. 11:2-3, God hath not cast away his people which he foreknew. Wot ye not what the scripture saith of Elias? How he maketh intercession to God against Israel, saying, Lord, they have killed thy prophets, and digged down thine altars; and I am left alone, and they seek my life.

Prophecy: I Kings 19:18, Yet I have left me seven thousand in Israel, all the knees which have not bowed unto Baal, and every mouth which hath not kissed him.

Fulfillment: Rom. 11:4, But what saith the answer of God unto him? I have reserved to myself seven thousand men, who have not bowed the knee to the image of Baal.

Prophecy: Isa. 29:10-11, For the Lord hath poured out upon you the spirit of deep sleep, and hath closed your eyes; the prophets and your rulers, the seers hath he covered. And the vision of all is become unto you as the words of a book that is sealed, which men deliver to one that

is learned, saying, Read this, I pray thee; and he saith, I cannot; for it is sealed.

Fulfillment: Rom. 11:8, (According as it is written, God hath given them the spirit of slumber, eyes that they should not see, and ears that they should not hear;) unto this day.

Prophecy: Psalms 69:22, Let their table become a snare before them; and that which should have been for their welfare, let it become a trap.

Fulfillment: Rom. 11:9, And David saith, Let their table be made a snare, and a trap, and a stumblingblock, and a recompence unto them.

Prophecy: Isa. 59:20-21, And the Redeemer shall come to Zion, and unto them that turn from transgression in Jacob, saith the Lord. As for me, this is my covenant with them, saith the Lord; My spirit that is upon thee, and my words which I have put in thy mouth, shall not depart out of thy mouth, nor out of the mouth of thy seed, nor out of the mouth of thy seed's seed, saith the Lord, from henceforth and for ever.

Fulfillment: Rom. 11:26-27, And so all Israel shall be saved; as it is written, There shall come out of Sion, the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob; For this is my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins.

Prophecy: Psalms 69:9, For the zeal of thine house hath eaten me up; and the reproaches of them that reproached thee are fallen upon me.

Fulfillment: Rom. 15:3, For even Christ pleased not himself; but, as it is written, The reproaches of them that reproached thee fell on me.

Prophecy: Psalms 18:49, Therefore will I give thanks unto thee, O Lord, among the heathen, and sing praises unto thy name.

Fulfillment: Rom. 15:9, And that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy; as it is written, For this cause I will confess to thee among the Gentiles, and sing unto thy name.

Prophecy: Deut. 32:43, Rejoice, O ye nations, with his people; for he will avenge the blood of his servants, and will render vengeance to his adversaries, and will be merciful unto his land, and to his people.

Fulfillment: Rom. 15:10, And again he saith, Rejoice, ye Gentiles, with his people.

Prophecy: Psalms 117:1, O praise the Lord, all ye nations; praise him, all ye people.

Fulfillment: Rom. 15:11, And again, Praise the Lord, all ye Gentiles; and laud him, all ye people.

- Brother W. E. Bashor
867 Lorna Dr., Glen Ellen, Calif. 95442



Love is like a boomerang; when you give it, it comes right back to you.

ANSWERED PRAYERS

Part 25

We have a frightful enemy who knows that prayer is his undoing. If Satan had his way, he would destroy every altar and every prayer chamber; he would break up every prayer meeting and even destroy those that believe in and resort to prayer.

How needful that we pray! The powers working against us are great. "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, AGAINST THE RULERS OF THE DARKNESS OF THIS WORLD, AGAINST SPIRITUAL WICKEDNESS IN HIGH PLACES." Ephesians 6:12.

We cannot combat the forces of evil alone. We must have the help of God. We seek that help by praying to Him.

We have an enemy who substitutes the good for the best. He even attempts to substitute the bad for the good. He is unconcerned how much we read our Bible, just so we do not obey it. He cares not that we meditate and think about prayer, just as long as we DO NOT PRAY.

The devil is quick to try to make us believe that because a prayer was not promptly answered, God is failing us. He tries to make us believe the impossibility of having our petitions granted. God never discourages anyone. You can be certain that all discouragements are from Satan. When we would do good, Satan is nigh. He even tries to discourage by putting a smoke screen of evil and foul thoughts into our minds in the midst of our supplications to God. He causes us to doubt after we have prayed. Satan is the greatest of side-trackers and time-consumers. Where he sees an honest endeavor for the cause of Christ, he tries to kill or quench it. We will never know in this life how often Satan has tried and how near he has come to destroying our chances for the promised crown.

Paul tells us in Romans 8:34 that Christ is at the right hand of God making intercessions for us. There, at God's right hand, I believe Christ prays for those that are trying to live a Christian life.

If you think God has never answered Christ's prayers offered in your every behalf, I believe you are mistaken. I read in John 17:9 where Jesus says, "I pray for them (His followers); I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine."

As a specific instance, notice Luke 22:31-32 which reads, "And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat; BUT I HAVE PRAYED FOR THEE, that thy faith fail not. . ." When Satan was about to destroy Peter, Jesus' prayer saved Peter. Jesus prayers have saved us many times. God comes to our rescue.

I John 4:4, "Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them; because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world."

- Brother Paul R. Myers
Box 117, Greentown, Ohio 44630

QUEEN ESTHER'S GREAT COURAGE

Part 3

In the third chapter of Esther, we find Haman, who has not been mentioned before. King Ahasuerus promoted him to be Prime Minister, and also gave him much authority.

Haman was an Agagite, "...of Amalekitish descent," says Josephus, the historian. Haman was a loyal and a competent officer in the king's palace, but he had a revengeful and unjust spirit within him. All the king's servants, within the king's gates, bowed in reverence to Haman except Mordecai.

The king's servants asked Mordecai, "Why transgressest thou the king's commandment?" Mordecai did not harken to their persuasion but plainly told them that he was a Jew, so he could not in good conscience bow to him. Mordecai reasoned that all reverence and glory should be given to God, rather than to man. From now on, Mordecai was the enemy of Haman.

Haman meditated revenge when he saw Mordecai's rudeness. He wanted to see if he would bend or break. Haman went before the king with the very deepest determination to destroy the Jews. He informed the king that there was a certain people scattered throughout the provinces of his kingdom, who had laws of their own, who did not care to conform to the king's laws and who might cause a rebellion.

With his plan the king was pleased; so he gave Haman the go-ahead to make a general massacre of all the Jews; men, women and children. The wicked Haman also bribed the king with ten thousand talents of silver to be placed in the king's treasury. Haman, who was quite a schemer, knew how he could reimburse himself from the spoil of the Jews. The king was so bewitched by Haman that he was willing to give all the Jews into his hands, as a lamb to a lion.

Haman and the scribes set a certain day for this designed massacre. The day was in the first month of the twelfth year of the king's reign, when Esther had been his queen and wife for about five years. Mordecai and Esther had eleven months to defeat the design. God's wisdom serves its own purposes by man's folly.

The bloody edict was drawn up, signed with the king's signet, and

published. It gave orders that in every province, on the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, to kill all the Jews; men, women and children.

The King and Haman sat down to drink; but Haman was afraid that the king's conscience would smite him for what he had done. So Haman kept him drinking. The city of Shushan was very sad and perplexed. Not only the Jews themselves, but all their neighbors who had any principles of justice or compassion. It grieved them to see men, who lived peacefully, treated so savagely. But the King and Haman cared for none of these things.

- To be continued

Brother Clarence R. Gehr
Dallas Center, Iowa 50063

OBITUARY

FLORA WILLIAMS

Flora Ellen Jamison, daughter of John and Lydia Jamison, was born September 12, 1892 near Boones Mill, Virginia. She had been in failing health the past eight years and departed this life on August 11, 1975 at her home near Dallas Center, Iowa.

Flora moved with her family from Virginia to Quinter, Kansas in December 1906. On May 28, 1913 she was married to John William Williams. To this union five daughters were born; Pauline, Alvina, Velora, Kathryn and Urania.

Flora was baptized into the Church of the Brethren at an early age. In 1928 she and her husband transferred their membership to the Dunkard Brethren Church at Quinter, Kansas. She was active in the church, serving with her husband in the Deacons office as long as health permitted. She was a faithful member until death.

Flora moved with her family to Dallas Center in 1946. She was a loving, devoted mother to her family in spite of her illness. She was preceeded in death by one daughter, Velora, her parents, one sister, and two brothers.

She leaves her husband, John, four daughters; Pauline and Alvina of the home, Kathryn of Perry, Iowa, and Urania and her husband Marvin Flory of Dallas Center, Iowa. Three granddaughters; Donna Mae, Susan Lucile, and Ruth Ellen Flory. One sister, Clara Lilly of Dallas Center, Iowa, and three brothers; Ernest Jamison of Quinter, Kansas, Noah Jamison of Colby, Kansas, and Paul Jamison of Denton, Texas. Many nieces and

nephews, and a host of friends and neighbors.

There's an open gate
at the end of the road
Through which each must go alone,
and there in a light we cannot see
Our Father claims His own;
Beyond the gate our loved one
finds happiness and rest
and there is comfort
In the thought
That a loving God knows best.

Funeral services were held August 13, 1975 at the Dallas Center Dunkard Brethren Church. The services were conducted by Elder Ray Reed, Bro. Fred Pifer, and Bro. Alvin Chupp. Burial was in the Brethren Cemetery.

OBITUARY

JOHN WILLIAMS

John William Williams, son of William Henry and Emma (Smith) Williams was born January 7, 1886 at Beattie, Kansas, and departed this life August 17, 1975 at his home near Dallas Center, Iowa.

In 1898 John moved with his parents by covered wagon to Enid, Oklahoma and were pioneers in the opening of the homesteads in that area.

In 1908 the family moved back to Kansas, locating at Quinter. There on May 28, 1913, John was married to Flora Ellen Jamison. To this union five daughters were born.

John was baptized in the Church of the Brethren at an early age and in 1928 he and his wife transferred their membership to the Dunkard Brethren Church at Quinter, Kansas. He was active in the church and served in the Deacon's office for forty years.

John moved his family to Dallas Center in 1946 where he purchased a farm and was actively engaged in farming until he was eighty years of age.

John was much concerned for the welfare of his church and his family. He had been in ill health for seven years and confined to his home the past three years. He was able to be about in his home in his wheel chair until one week before his death. His wife preceeded him in death six days; also one daughter, Velora, his parents and two brothers.

He is survived by four daughters; Pauline and Alvina of the home, Kathryn of Perry, Iowa, and Urania and her husband, Marvin Flory of Dallas Center, Iowa. Also three granddaughters; Donna Mae, Susan Lucile and Ruth Ellen Flory, and many nieces and nephews, and a host of friends and neighbors.

THE LAND OF REST

Far above this world of sorrow,
 Far beyond this mortal shore,
 Is a land of bliss and beauty,
 Where they never sorrow more,
 Where the pure and holy enter;
 There the wicked cease from troubling,
 And the weary are at rest.

Pearly gates and walls of jasper
 Circle round the city bright;
 Precious stones are her foundations,
 God, the Lamb, her glorious light;
 Trees of life forever blooming
 All of healing power possessed;
 Where the wicked cease from troubling
 And the weary are at rest.

Pastures green, and living waters,
 In that heavenly land abound;
 Endless pleasures bliss unmingled,
 There, and there alone, are found.
 No more sorrow, pain or anguish,
 Souls no more by sin distressed;
 There the wicked cease from troubling,
 And the weary are at rest.

Here temptations gather round us,
 Satan's wiles our hearts to vex;
 Cares harass and foes surround us,
 Pain afflicts and fears perplex.
 But, in that bright world of glory,
 We shall be forever blest;
 There the wicked cease from troubling,
 And the weary are at rest.

- Written by John's father,
 William H. Williams

Funeral services were held August 19, 1975 at the Dallas Center Dunkard Brethren Church. The services were conducted by Elder Ray Reed and Bro. Fred Pifer. Burial was in the Brethren Cemetery.

NEWS ITEMS

WEST FULTON, OHIO

Elder D. Paul Reed came into our midst and held a revival meeting at West Fulton, August 13 - 24.

Brother Reed preached the Word with power and gave us much food for thought. These meetings were very well attended.

Although there were no additions to the Church at this time, we feel we have been uplifted and we know the good seed has been sown. We pray it will bear fruit in the future.

May the Lord continue to richly bless Brother Reed and his family as he continues laboring for his Master.

- Sister Leola Beck, Cor.

WALNUT GROVE, MARYLAND

Revival meetings ended at the Walnut Grove Congregation on June 22, 1975 with Elder Laverne Keeney from Lititz, Pennsylvania as our evangelist. Bro. Keeney did not shun his responsibility to preach the doctrine as taught in the Bible.

We enjoyed another Lovefeast on October 5, 1975. Visiting ministers who fellowshiped with us in this service were: James Kegerreis, Laverne Keeney, Joshua Rice, Eugene Kauffman and Carl Broadwater.

Bro. Eugene Kauffman officiated our Communion Service. We appreciated all the visitors and invite any one to come and worship with us when it is possible.

- Sister Betty Shelly, Cor.

THANK YOU

We extend our heartfelt thanks to each of you. The cards, letters, flowers, visits and prayers in our behalf while Mary recovers from her broken hip have been greatly appreciated. May God bless you richly for your kindness to us.

- Bro. and Sis. W. S. Reed



The man who does things makes many mistakes, but he never makes the biggest mistake of all - doing nothing.

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Paul R. Myers
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BIBLE MONITOR

VOL LIII

NOVEMBER 15, 1975

NO. 22

"For the faith once for all delivered to the saints."

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and
Scriptural in practice.

OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all
the world and preach the gospel.

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

O GOD, OUR HELP IN AGES PAST

O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home!

Under the shadow of Thy throne
Still may we dwell secure;
Sufficient is Thine arm alone,
And our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood,
Or earth received her frame,<
From everlasting Thou art God,
To endless years the same.

O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be Thou our guide while life shall last,
And our eternal home.

- Isaac Watts

THANKSGIVING

Despite the rampant immorality in our nation, we still have a day set aside by Presidential Proclamation for the offering of thanks to the God of Heaven. Most in this land will ignore the true purpose of the day. It will be a day of feasting, drinking and sport for them. A few sober-minded people may this day be awakened to the abundant blessings God has poured out upon us, as individuals and as a nation. For Christians this day should be but one more day to offer thanks to our Heavenly Father. Although thankfulness should be a habit in our lives, it is good for us to use this day to recount our many blessings.

To offer our thanks we must recognize from whom these blessings have come. It is not by luck or mere hard work or wise investment that all these things have come to us. The Eternal God of Heaven, though great and mighty, has an interest and concern for us, individually. All we have or ever hope to have comes from Him.

Our blessings may be divided into two classes: temporal and Spiritual. Temporal blessings are the benefits we enjoy while in this world only. They are limited to this lifetime. Although we place great importance upon these blessings, they are more for the body's comfort than for the soul's. These blessings include our natural life and our health. Also included are the blessings associated with our work: the talents, health and opportunity to work, as well as the material prosperity that accompanies our labor. Although we would often feel we have not received temporal blessings as abundantly as some others, yet if we would but look around it would not take long to find someone who is in worse shape than ourselves, either financially or medically. In thinking of

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this life's blessings we would do well to remember Paul's words, "For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out." I Tim. 6:7.

The Spiritual blessings, on the other hand, are not only for our enjoyment in this life but also beyond this life. In fact, the Spiritual blessings enjoyed in this life are preparation for a future eternal life where our present blessings will be deepened. Our privileges of worship here, by faith, will be an even greater worship over there, in full knowledge.

We could not comprehend a greater love than our Heavenly Father's love for us. He sent His Son to be propitiation for our sins. Can we be so callous that we would not thank him? Our own goodness and works could never make us right with God. By our efforts or even by our own indifference, we are on a downward journey leading to an everlasting punishment. But God has interposed His Merciful Gift, Jesus Christ. We have mansions in Heaven awaiting us if found faithful. For the difference in our direction and eternal destiny, we must thank God for He is the only One able to save our souls. Our thanks should be expressed, not only by the praise of our lips, but by living to please Him.

All of these blessings that pertain to our soul's salvation would be unknown to us if we did not have the Bible. Because it is true - God's truth - we can believe the descriptions and conditions it contains in speaking of our salvation. Without the Bible we would have no authentic record of the life and work of Jesus. There would be either complete ignorance of Him or only a legendary, mythical portrayal of Him. Without the Bible we would have no sure way of knowing what would be pleasing to God. We could not style our lives to conform to His will. Without the Bible we would not have the examples, whether as warning or encouragement, of those whose lives are now recorded in her pages. For His Written Word we should be especially thankful.

As God's People we have received an heritage that warrants our thanks. Our forefathers suffered various persecutions in Europe, endured the long and dangerous crossing of the Atlantic and established homes and Churches in the wilderness of America. They came because they wished to serve God according to the teaching of His Word. They and the succeeding generations came to be known as "The People of the Book." We are the recipients of their legacy; they paid a price to please God, to establish the Church and to keep it in order. We should be thankful for their efforts and their suffering. We should also be willing to sacrifice so future generations, if the Lord tarries, will receive the same heritage we have. We have so many Spiritual blessings to be thankful for at this season.

Perhaps as you have read these lines you have thought of many other blessings, temporal or Spiritual, you are thankful for. Good! Do not wait until Thanksgiving Day to give thanks but make it a daily habit. For what are you thankful, today?

ANSWERED PRAYERS

Part 26

The children of Israel were held in bondage in Egypt. While they were God's chosen people, at the same time, they became slaves of King Pharaoh. He was a hard task-master. They truly were under bondage, enjoying no freedom. They were forced to do public labor, such as road building, with very meager or no pay. The word "bondage" was used to describe the slavery into which the poor Jews were being forced. Exodus 1:14 gives a better insight into their fate. "And they made their lives bitter with hard bondage, in mortar, and in brick, and in all manner of service in the field; all their service, wherein they made them serve, was with rigour." Rigour means: with severity, strictness, harshness.

One of their unpleasant tasks was brick-making. This required mixing mud with straw, forming the brick, and letting it out in the sun until dry and hard. These bricks were used in building construction. This was a menial task. The straw to reinforce the brick was provided them. They had to mix the mud and the straw and form the bricks. They were not permitted to take their time or neglect their output. They had to produce a certain amount of brick every day.

One day King Pharaoh ordered his task-masters to lay a heavier burden on the children of Israel; they no longer would be provided with the straw. They were to gather their straw wherever they could find it. At the same time, they were required to make as many brick in a day as when the straw was provided. Straw was not plentiful and the Israelites scattered in all directions in search of straw, but they had to resort to stubble. Exodus 5:12. All the while their task-masters were demanding the same output of brick.

The officers who were over the children of Israel were beaten by the taskmasters, demanding more work of them. The officers approached Pharaoh about the matter. They literally said that they just could not make as many brick by gathering their own straw. Pharaoh ordered them back to work; to gather their straw and to not diminish their output.

Consider, for one minute, their plight. What would you or I have done, had we been one of these slaves? There was no human way of relief or escape. Moses tried to come to the children of Israel's aid, but King Pharaoh, instead of easing the burden, made it more grievous. This is just one example of the slavery the children of Israel had to endure.

Now we come to the title of our subject, "ANSWERED PRAYERS." Exodus 2:23-25, "And it came to pass in process of time, that the king of Egypt died; and the children of Israel sighed by reason of the bondage, and they cried, and their cry came up unto God by reason of the bondage. And God HEARD THEIR GROANING, and God remembered His

covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob. And God looked upon the children of Israel, and God had respect unto them."

When the children of Israel appealed unto God in prayer, He heard their cries and their groanings. It touched God. He had respect unto them. Not only did he hear their prayers and have respect for them, He proceeded to answer their prayers.

In freeing the children of Israel, in answer to their prayers, God performed miracles. He led them with a cloud by day, with a pillar of fire by night. He fed them manna and quail. He was constantly mindful of and supplying their needs.

Pharaoh's army was in pursuit. As they neared the Red Sea, I presume they all wondered how they could get safely across. And if they could not cross, how they would meet the challenge of Pharaoh's army. God was answering their prayers. There is absolutely nothing too complicated for God.

God caused a strong east wind to dry up a portion of the Sea. The waters stood up as a heap, making a perpendicular wall on either side. The children of Israel walked through on dry ground. When Pharaoh's men pursued them across the sea bed, the walls of water closed over them. They perished. This timing of the waters to save the Israelites and destroy the Egyptians could have been done only by a miraculous act of God; and that act was His answer to the children of Israel's prayer.

If we would give God credit where due, we would have to acknowledge that He has performed some miraculous acts in answering our many prayers. We just do not offer enough prayers of thanksgiving to our Father in Heaven for all His benefits.

- Brother Paul R. Myers
Box 117, Greentown, Ohio 44630

FOR THIS, I AM THANKFUL

I am thankful that salvation was made available to all who will accept it. I am thankful that I was given understanding to know I needed it; and I accepted it early in life. Because of salvation, there is peace in my heart.

I am thankful for the fruit of the Spirit that I see in the lives of God's people; love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance. I am thankful for my Christian friends who are concerned for me, who pray for me because they know I need it. I am thankful that their love prompts them to pray, without waiting to be asked to do so.

I am thankful that I have been loved. Because of this, I have love to

give to others. "...That ye love one another as I have loved you." John 15:12. We could not love if Christ had not loved us. I am thankful that Jesus made it possible for us to reach the Father in prayer. "And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son." John 14:13. "Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name; ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full." John 16:24.

I am thankful, that in a life where all kinds of sin are present, those sins can be washed away in the blood of Christ; just as in a life where only a few sins are present. We do not merit salvation on the basis of our own goodness; nor can it be bought with money. I am thankful that Christ will come again to receive unto Himself His own, the ones who accepted Him as their Saviour and Lord.

I am thankful that I have made mistakes, so I can understand how it feels to fail, to have everything end up wrong when I wanted it to be right. The person hardest for me to forgive is myself; yet I must be able to forgive myself, or I couldn't accept Christ's pardon. If we think we are so sinful, that Christ cannot save us, we are not forgiving ourselves and we are denying His power to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

I am thankful that I have been lonely, feeling forsaken by both God and man, so I can know what it's like to be lonely. I am thankful that I have had pain, so I can understand what it is like and can have compassion on others who suffer. I am thankful that I have known sorrow so I can understand when others grieve.

I am thankful that God could trust me with trouble. Job had much trouble; God allowed it because He knew Job could take it. We cannot all cope with the same amount or type of trouble. But what we can handle, God allows, because it will make us stronger in Him.

I am thankful that there are people who will risk their lives to take the Gospel to others, whether by word of mouth or by providing Bibles to those who cannot purchase them openly. I have more than one Bible, which seems selfish, when there are those who have none. Perhaps they have a few, worn pages from a Bible or hand-copied portions of God's Word. Do we really appreciate that we can have it ALL, in as many copies as we wish to purchase?

What are you thankful for? Are you thankful just on Thanksgiving Day, or all year long? It is God's Will that we be thankful all the time, not just on special occasions. "Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ." Eph. 5:20. When you are thankful, your life will express it as well as your prayers. Every child of God has much to be thankful for, so let us thank Him from the heart. "Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise; be thankful unto him, and bless his name." Psalms 100:4.

SERVANTS OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST

Colossians 4:7-18

Tychicus, Onesimus, Aristarchus, Mark, Jesus-Justus, Epaphras, Luke, Demas, Nymphas, Archippus, Paul.

The names of these eleven servants of the Lord Jesus, have been lifted into a prominent place in Scripture. All had shown their faith and obedience to Christ in helping to establish and maintain the Christian Church at Colossae. Each one had lovingly given of their own talents and resources in helping in a common cause in the building up of this Christian center.

Philemon and a sister, Apphia (much beloved), Philemon 2, also belong to this trusty group. This brings the number (without Paul) to twelve. A striking reminder of this prominent number in Scripture.

Philemon and Nymphas both maintained Christian households, that no doubt served as assembly centers for the Colossian Brethren. Archippus, a minister, may have been a member of the household of Philemon.

Of these twelve, the pastor type emerges in verses 12-13. "Epaphras, who is one of you, a servant of Christ, saluteth you, always laboring fervently for you in prayers, that ye may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God. For I bear him record, that he hath great zeal for you, and them that are in Laodicea, and them in Hierapolis."

Epaphras is usually regarded as one of Paul's converts, from his more than two year stay at Ephesus. The three churches, Colossae, Hierapolis and Laodicea form a triangle on the map, possibly ten miles or so apart. Epaphras had evidently been much used by the Lord in starting these three churches. He became deeply involved in fervent prayer and in teaching the Gospel of Christ.

Now, as a messenger to Paul in prison, he brings word from these three churches. His was a loving and much concerned report. He "...also declared unto us your love in the Spirit (Holy Spirit)." Col. 1:8. But, evidently, he brought also an account of the heretical teaching bothering many of the believers there.

In the holy atmosphere of Paul's cell, the burden of prayer became so keen as to cause him to "labor fervently" in prayer to God for his home brethren. Paul, no doubt, partly quotes him, "...that ye may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God."

A high standard of Christian living is held before us. Paul and Timothy's prayer for them, Col. 1:9-14, follows the same line; that "...ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding: That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God."

We might indeed talk too much about prayer; but it is not likely that

we pray too much. For "prayer is work," as someone aptly said; and as Paul expresses it "laboring fervently."

The fervent prayer labors of Epaphras no doubt had antedated the three mentioned churches. Seeing these great answers to his prayers, he endeavored to extend his prayer labors to ministering to the needs of these "flocks" of Christ. When others were able to minister, he became a traveling messenger for Paul and the churches. But he continued to pray.

One sees him praying with the "Spirit and the understanding also." I Cor. 14:15. He keenly knew his dear brethren and sisters and their needs and temptations. These he faithfully mingled with his own heart cries for them. When words failed, he sought to connect it all with the Divine Will of God.

According to I Peter 2:9, this man belonged to God's "Royal Priesthood." All true believers also belong. All are instructed by Christ to meet often with God alone, there to pour out the heart's joys and sorrows, inner-heart cries, for personal needs and for others.

Christ's earthly ministry was undergirded with a deep and prevailing praise and prayer ministry; for Himself and for those of His own. This was taken up after He left by His disciples and Apostles. Holy women, Acts 1:14, were also included as a part of this "Royal Priesthood."

Acts 13:1-3 shows the Apostle Paul in Antioch as a part of this "Royal Priesthood" seeking the Will of the Lord in the spreading of the Gospel. Much later, this convert, Epaphras, felt and accepted this burden of prayer as from the Lord. Paul and Timothy joined their prayers with his. There was great need as Roman persecution of the Christians became a fixed practice.

We wonder how long these churches endured; a revealing side-light is given in Rev. 3:14-22, thought to be possibly thirty-five years later. If so, no doubt most of these original twelve had departed to be with the Lord.

Again we wonder what had happened to the "Royal Priesthood" in Laodicea. Or were there indeed faithful spiritual priests there, prostrate before God, who knew and cared about the miserable poverty and shame of the Laodicean Church. Rev. 3:19 seems to suggest there were indeed some.

The true and extended inner history of the Church of Christ through the centuries will never be known or appreciated until revealed at the Judgment seat of Christ. Only God knows His "Royal Priests."

It is a sobering thought that some like the ancient Simeon and Anna will be waiting and watching with prayer and supplication when Our Lord Jesus returns.

- James D. Cover
1225 E. Morris, Modesto, Calif. 95350

QUEEN ESTHER'S GREAT COURAGE

Part 4

There was great sorrow among the Jews upon hearing of Haman's bitter threat upon them. Mordecai's sorrow was so great that he rent his clothes and put on sackcloth. Mordecai also proclaimed that he was not ashamed to own himself a friend of the Jews and to be a fellowsufferer with them. He knew it to be a righteous cause and the cause of God, even when it seemed to be such a desperately sinking cause.

Even with all the sorrow in the land, there was a law; no one could come into the king's gate clothed in sackcloth; nor come near the king dressed in an attitude of mourning, but only in gay and pleasant clothing. So Mordecai was compelled to keep his distance and to not take his place at the gate.

All the Jews in every province also took it to heart; they denied themselves the comfort of their dwellings, for they fasted, and laid in sackcloth and ashes.

Queen Esther became greatly troubled that Mordecai was so exceedingly grieved. She also became distressed because of the danger to the Jews. Esther sent changes of raiment to Mordecai; but, because of his grief, he refused them.

The laws of Persia were so very strict concerning wives, especially the king's wife, the queen. So it was not possible for Mordecai to have a conference with Esther. The king had appointed Hatach as her message bearer. Esther sent to Mordecai to know of his lamenting and why he would not put off his sackcloth. The message, Mordecai sent back to Esther, the Queen, was an authentic account of the whole matter, and instructions for her to intercede with the king. All this had come about because of the anger Haman had toward Mordecai, because he did not bow to him.

Esther, the Queen, returned a message to Mordecai, by Hatach, that she could not come into the presence of the king, being uncalled, without endangering her life. All knew that whosoever came before the king, uncalled, would be put to death, unless the king held out his golden sceptre to him. This was bad for his subjects, for what good was a king to whom they did not have the liberty to come to with their grievances. It is not so in the court of the King of Kings. Heb. 4:16, "Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need."

Esther, the Queen, was between two great walls. She was very discouraged. She was under a heavy, dense cloud; the king's affections were cool toward her, therefore she had been kept from his presence for thirty days.

Mordecai still insisted that despite whatever danger her life was in, she must appeal to the king in this great affair. Mordecai answered, "Think not with thyself that the king's house shall be a refuge, and the crown shall save thy life. You are a Jewess and if the rest be cut off, you will be cut off too."

Esther, the Queen, returned an answer to Mordecai, "Go, gather together all the Jews that are present in Shushan and fast ye for me, and neither eat nor drink three days, night or day. I also and my maidens will fast likewise. . ." She knew what it might cost her to appeal to the king. But she would not until she and her friends had first appealed to God, through prayer and fasting; only then might she hope to find favor with the king.

With the piety and devotion that became an Israelite, she believed that God's favor was obtained by prayer. She knew the practice in extraordinary cases was to join fasting with prayer. She also desired that Mordecai would sanctify a fast and a solemn assembly together in their synagogues to pray for her.

With the courage and resolution that became a queen, she sought God. "I will go in unto the king, to intercede for my people. I know it is not according to the king's law, but it is according to God's law. So I will venture in. If I perish, I perish. I cannot lose my life for a better cause."

- To be continued
Brother Clarence R. Gehr
Dallas Center, Iowa 50063

CHILDREN'S PAGE

A CLOUD BY DAY AND A FIRE BY NIGHT

Exodus 13:20-22

When the children of Israel left Egypt they took everything they owned except their houses. They were a self-supporting people. Pharaoh had allowed them to have flocks of sheep and goats and cattle. What a sight it must have been to see nearly three million people start out into the wilderness. They left in a hurry because Pharaoh's command was urgent. The people (young and old, men and women, children, animals, chickens, ducks and geese) didn't have time to do anything but go. Some were old and dying; some were being born. They even took their dough before it was leavened - no time to bake bread. Men were shouting, women yelling, babies crying, dogs barking; everyone was ex-

cited. There was bound to be confusion, but somehow they managed; and leave Egypt they did. Four hundred years in Egypt and now a new life faced them. Freedom they had; but were they able to shoulder the responsibility that went with it? Only time would tell.

The Egyptians lived along the river Nile and irrigated the rich land that was flooded once a year, leaving a rich deposit of silt that grew crops in abundance. Beyond this irrigated land was desert. It was like the irrigated valleys of California, where without water there would be only desert. How could all these people live in a wilderness? The children of Israel possibly didn't think too much about that. At this time, anything seemed better than the cruel slavery they had endured. Now they were free!

Moses was the leader that God had chosen to guide this great multitude. He knew there was only one way to go; that was to trust God for everything. It was almost hopeless to think that an uneducated people, who knew nothing but being told what to do, could ever learn to think for themselves. But God was with Moses and led the people toward the Red Sea.

Do you know how God showed them the way to go? He caused a pillar of cloud to go before them in the day and a pillar of fire in the night to give them light to go by, day and night. God wanted them to get away from Egypt, fast; and they must have traveled night and day for awhile. How could the people keep going night and day? Well, God could give them the strength to do it; couldn't He?

Do you know that people today are much like the children of Israel? We become slaves to Satan; but when we turn to God and put our trust in Him, He will lead us in the right direction. He will make us free from sin and teach us by His Word to be a responsible people.

- Brother Rudy Cover

OBITUARY

ELDER JAMES F. SWALLOW

James Francis Swallow was born in Lima, Ohio on August 14, 1884.

While yet a young man, he enlisted in the United States Army at the onset of the Spanish American War. He served in the cavalry and saw active duty in the Philippines during the Philippine Insurrection.

On August 16, 1906 he was united in marriage to Anna Catherine Briney of Dayton, Ohio. To this union were born eight sons and three daughters, all of whom are still living.

While in the Philippines, he found a New Testament and spent much time reading it. He became convinced of its message and his need for salvation. Shortly after his marriage both he and his wife repented of their sins and confessed Jesus Christ as their Saviour and Lord. They were buried with Christ in baptism in Wolf Creek by the Fort McKinley Church of the Brethren near Stillwater Junction, Ohio. His hunger for the Word of God and the zeal with which he lived his new life in Christ, resulted in giving much of his time and interest to the church. He was soon the Sunday School Superintendent and within a few years was called into the ministry. In this calling he lived and served all the rest of his days. He became an Elder in the church and for many years was an active full time evangelist. He was faithfully supported in all this by his wife and children, often with great sacrifice.

Later in life, both he and his wife affiliated with the Dunkard Brethren Church, where he also served as an active minister and elder.

Being led of God in a vision to move to the Pacific coastal region for his health, he settled near Santa Rosa, California on Sonoma Mountain. There high on the hillside they built their home without the benefit of a road or electricity. Supplies were carried in on their backs. This work on the mountain is, itself, a monument to this man of great courage and determination. Their mountain home became a lighthouse, both to young and old, as he was frequently sought after for counseling, prayer, salvation and marriage. He became known over a large area as "the old man of God on Sonoma Mountain." He was a spiritual father to many and greatly attracted young people, many of whom he brought to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.

During the last seven years of his life he founded the Sanoma Mountain Lighthouse Mission, as he fondly called it, and was actively involved in this until he died. He spent his life serving the Lord, and lived to see much fruit from it. Perhaps he is best remembered for his gift of seeing in every life situation a special opportunity for serving God. He could well say with St. Paul the Apostle, "...I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some."

His wife preceeded him in death on January 25, 1971; and he greatly missed her.

At the age of ninety one years and twenty four days, on September 7, 1975, he quietly passed from this life into the eternal presence of his Lord. "And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth; Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; and their works do follow them." Revelation 14:13.

Funeral services were conducted at Petaluma, California by Elder Ora Skiles of Modesto, California with graveside services at Gridley, California by Elder Hayes Reed also of Modesto.

A pilgrim once, so runs an ancient tale,
Old, worn, and spent, crept down a shadowed vale,
On either hand rose mountains bleak and high;
Chill was the gusty air, and dark the sky;
The path was rugged, and his feet were bare;
His faded cheek was seamed by pain and care;
His heavy eyes upon the ground were cast,
And every step seemed feebler than the last.

The valley ended where a naked rock
Rose sheer from earth to heaven, as if to mock
The Pilgrim who had crept that toilsome way;
But while his dim and weary eyes essay
To find an outlet in the mountain side,
A ponderous sculptured door he spied,
And, tottering toward it with fast failing breath,
Above the portal read, "The Gate of Death."

He could not stay his feet that led thereto;
It yielded to his touch, and passing through,
He came into a world all bright and fair;
Blue were the heavens, and balmy was the air;
And lo! the blood of youth was in his veins,
And he was clad in robes that held no stains
Of his long pilgrimage. Amazed, he turned;
Behold! a golden door behind him burned
In that fair sunlight, and his wondering eyes,
Now lusterful and clear as those new skies,
Free from the mists of age, of care, of strife.
Above the portal read, "The Gate of Life."

- Selected

NEWS ITEMS

GRANDVIEW, MISSOURI

The Grandview Congregation enjoyed a one week revival from August 10th through the 17th, with Elder Paul R. Myers as the evangelist. Bro. Myers did not hesitate to preach the Word, as the result, two precious souls decided to have a closer walk with the Lord and were baptized. Earlier in the summer another dear young boy was baptized and received into the fold.

We were happy to have a goodly number of members with us for our

Lovefeast Service on Saturday evening. May God bless each one who made an effort to come worship with us. We were happy to have Sis. Myers with us also. May God bless Bro. and Sis. Myers as they go about the Lord's work.

- Sister Bertha Jarboe, Cor.

ENGLEWOOD, OHIO

The Englewood Congregation was made to rejoice again as another young soul accepted the Lord as her Saviour and was baptized.

We pray the Lord will strengthen these young souls as they go forth from day to day and meet up with the evils that are around them and each of us. We know the days are evil but we have a kind Heavenly Father who has promised us strength to overcome if we put our faith and confidence in Him. May the Lord bless each one and keep us faithful.

- Sister Della Klepinger, Cor.

WAYNESBORO, PENNSYLVANIA

The Waynesboro Congregation enjoyed a two week revival from September 1st to September 14th with Elder Melvin Roesch as the evangelist. We thank God for the Word that was preached and the seed that was sown. We pray that it will bring forth a bountiful harvest in days to come. We are thankful Sister Roesch could also be with us during this time. We are thankful for all members from other congregations and friends who so faithfully supported these meetings.

Our fall Lovefeast was on Sunday October 12th with a good attendance. Ministers present throughout the day were, Emmert Shelly, Jr., Howard Surbey, Virgil Leatherman, Joshua Rice, Ray Shank, Eugene Kauffman, Jacob Ness and Eldon Mallow. There were 60 seated around the tables at the evening services with Bro. Eugene Kauffman officiating.

- Sister Wilma Eberly, Cor.

THANK YOU

I want to thank all the kind Brethren and Sisters that remembered me, with their cards and letters, while I was in the hospital and since returning home. I would like to say that my trouble was not my heart, but was a reaction from the medication I was taking.

- Brother W. E. Bashor

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR DECEMBER

Dec. 7 - Giving to Help Others. II Cor. 8:1-24

Dec. 14 - Paul Boasts of His Trials. II Cor. 11:1-33

Dec. 21 - THE BIRTH OF JESUS. Luke 2:1-24

Dec. 28 - "My Grace is Sufficient for Thee." II Cor. 12:1-21

QUESTIONS:

(1) How do we become rich as Christians? II Cor. 8:9

(2) If Christ through His poverty causes us to be rich, how does He want us to act? II Cor. 8:11-14

(3) What did Paul think of boasting? II Cor. 11:16-17

(4) Why did Paul boast of his trials to the church at Corinth?
II Cor. 11:18-21

(5) How do we know Paul was speaking of himself when he said he knew a man who was caught up to the third heaven? II Cor. 12:7

(6) Why did Paul take pleasure in his infirmities? II Cor. 12:9,10



WHAT IS A CHRISTIAN?

In Faith, a Believer in Christ. Mark 16:16.

In Knowledge, a Disciple. John 8:31.

In Character, a Saint. Rom. 1:7.

In Influence, a Light. Matt. 5:14.

In Conflict, a Soldier. II Tim. 2:3.

In Communion, a Friend. John 15:15.

In Progress, a Pilgrim. Heb. 11:13.

In Relationship, a Child. Rom. 8:16.

In Expectation, an Heir. Rom. 8:17.

DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR DECEMBER, 1975

COME

Memory Verse/, Zec. 9:9 Re-
joice greatly, O daughter of
Zion; shout, O daughter of
Jerusalem; behold, thy King
cometh unto thee; he is just,
and having salvation; lowly,
and riding upon an ass, and
upon a colt the foal of an ass.

Mon. 1 - Zec. 9:1-17
Tues. 2 - Zec. 12:1-14
Wed. 3 - Zec. 13:1-9
Thur. 4 - Zec. 14:1-21
Fri. 5 - Mal. 3:1-18
Sat. 6 - Mal. 4:1-6

Memory Verse, Mal. 3:1 Behold,
I will send my messenger,
and he shall prepare the way
before me; and the Lord,
whom ye seek, shall sudden-
ly come to his temple, even
the messenger of the coven-
ant, whom ye delight in; be-
hold, he shall come, saith the
Lord of hosts.

Sun. 7 - Matt. 3:1-17
Mon. 8 - Matt. 5:1-37
Tues. 9 - Matt. 6:1-34
Wed. 10 - Matt. 7:1-29
Thur. 11 - Matt. 8:1-34
Fri. 12 - Matt. 9:1-38
Sat. 13 - Matt. 10:1-22

Memory Verse, Matt. 2:6 And
thou Bethlehem, in the land
of Judah, art not the least
among the princes of Judah;
for out of thee shall come a
Governor, that shall rule my
people Israel.

Sun. 14 - Matt. 10:23-42
Mon. 15 - Matt. 11:1-30

Tues. 16 - Matt. 12:22-50
Wed. 17 - Matt. 13:1-30
Thur. 18 - Matt. 13:31-58
Fri. 19 - Matt. 14:1-36
Sat. 20 - Matt. 15:1-39

Memory Verse, Matt. 2:2 Say-
ing, Where is he that is born
King of the Jews? for we have
seen his star in the east, and
are come to worship him.

Sun. 21 - Matt. 16:1-28
Mon. 22 - Matt. 17:1-27
Tues. 23 - Matt. 18:1-35
Wed. 24 - Matt. 19:1-30
Thur. 25 - Matt. 2:1-23
Fri. 26 - Matt. 21:1-22
Sat. 27 - Matt. 21:23-46

Memory Verse, Matt. 3:11 I
indeed baptize you with water
unto repentance; but he that
cometh after me is mightier
than I, whose shoes I am not
worthy to bear; he shall bap-
tize you with the Holy Ghost,
and with fire.

Sun. 28 - Matt. 22:1-22
Mon. 29 - Matt. 23:1-39
Tues. 30 - Matt. 24:1-28
Wed. 31 - Matt. 24:29-51

Memory Verse, Matt. 9:13 But
go ye and learn what that
meaneth, I will have mercy,
and not sacrifice; for I am not
come to call the righteous,
but sinners to repentance.

Matt. 11:28 Come unto me,
all ye that labour and are heavy
laden, and I will give you rest.

Paul R. Myers
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Greentown, Ohio 44630

BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LIII

DECEMBER 1, 1975

NO. 23

"For the faith once for all delivered to the saints."

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

DID I FORGET TO THANK THEE, LORD

Did I forget to thank Thee, Lord,
For things that may seem small . . .
A flower by the wayside,
A wild bird's lonely call;
For all the daily happenings
That we call commonplace,
For sunrise and for sunset,
For a neighbor's smiling face?
For life is made of little things,
So let me not forget
To count my smallest blessings,
And before the sun has set,
To thank Thee, Lord, for every one
That adds a note of cheer,
And my blessings will be multiplied
Before another year.

Leola Geil

QUALITY CONTROL

"They just don't make ——— like they used to," is a statement we hear many times. American industry is geared to produce quantity not quality. Craftsmanship is nearly forgotten in the mainstream of American business. Whether it is an automobile, a kitchen appliance or farm machinery, we are prepared to find many "bugs". Although not used to its fullest possible extent, quality control is a part of American manufacturing. Often tight time schedules, production quotas and lax practices negate the effect of quality control. Too often quality control is more of a slogan than a reality.

Unfortunately, the desire of American business for quantity over quality has affected the Church. The numbers on the membership roll and the financial statement are often the leading concerns of the Church. Few are concerned about the quality of the lives of the members of the Church. The Church, like American business, has laid aside her quality control, discipline.

"Discipline" is a word that sounds harsh to our ears. It may remind us of an over-zealous, unloving administration of discipline in a former age; or it may remind us of a cold formalism enforced by Pharisaical rule. But discipline is the power given to the Church not for discipline's sake but for the benefit of the individual member and the Church. Too often the emphasis is on increasing the number of members but little attention is paid to the observance of the Gospel Order. The members are left to decide individually what is right, ignoring the standard of the Gospel and the teaching of the Church.

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Discipline is often relegated to the Church's trashheap because there is a fear of causing hard feelings, losing members or financial support. The Church, by not using loving discipline, loses her uniformity and distinctiveness. She loses the respect of the world around her. The world knows and respects the righteous standard set forth in the Bible when lived out in Christian lives. But the world loses respect for those professing to be following Christ but who live by a standard other than the Word of God.

Discipline, often, is not administered because to forbear is thought to be a favor to the errant member. It is considered to somehow be unloving to discipline members. Today we are reaping the harvest of a generation of undisciplined children. It is an unpleasant harvest, decried even by some who advocated that method of child raising. We have a young generation who are wild, reckless and greedy because their parents did them the supposed favor of not disciplining them. When students in school, doing mathematics, a standard was set before us; to get the right answer it was necessary to handle the numbers correctly. The teacher would not have been doing us a favor if she did not impose that standard. If we answered the question, "What is two times two?" by saying, "five" and the teacher would have let it go, we would have been handicapped throughout life by being unable to do simple mathematics because the teacher did us a favor. The Church is doing no favor to her errant member by withholding the discipline called for by the case after loving admonitions have failed.

Discipline must not be discipline for discipline's sake or the discipline of narrow, frustrated minds. It must be administered with love and tenderness, striving not just for outward compliance but an inward growth and common union of the members. Discipline was not placed in the Church by men of narrow and unloving minds but by God, Himself, through Christ and the Apostles. It is to be used not for punishment but for the restoration of the erring one. In I Cor. 5, Paul describes the sin of a brother who dwelt at Corinth, he prescribes the discipline needed for that case. In II Cor. 2 he commends the Corinthians for applying the needed discipline. He rejoices that it had its intended effect and entreats the Church to receive the erring one back into fellowship. Does Paul's writing of tears, anguish and grief sound like a hard-hearted disciplinarian out to punish for punishment's sake?

American business could better serve the buying public if quality were built into their products. The Church could better serve God, serve her members and fit herself for Her Coming Bridegroom if she were so minded. Quality control is needed in the Church.



Many people would learn from their mistakes if they weren't so busy denying that they made them.

CHILDREN'S PAGE

PHARAOH PURSUES ISRAEL

Exodus 14

After Israel left Egypt, the Egyptians were nearly helpless. There were no slaves to wait upon them - no one to milk their cows, grow their food, tend their gardens or care for their children. They were desperate. How could they live without slaves? The Egyptians had been used to having slaves do all their work. They didn't know the first thing about manual labor. They decided there was only one thing to do: bring those Hebrews back! It was told Pharaoh that the children of Israel were camped by the Red sea; they were trapped and didn't know where to go. Pharaoh was quick to seize on, what he thought was, an opportunity to bring the Hebrews back to Egypt. He called for his chariot and six hundred chosen chariots. These were chariots of war; each with a driver and a commander who could shoot arrows with deadly accuracy. These were Pharaoh's pride and joy. Egypt was the greatest nation at that time.

Pharaoh had a war machine second to none. There were also other chariots that followed the six hundred. The Bible says that Pharaoh took all the chariots in Egypt. There were two horses to each chariot and they could run like the wind. What chance did the Israelites on foot with women and children have against the might of Pharaoh?

It wasn't long till the chariots of Pharaoh came within sight of the children of Israel. Then a strange thing happened. Just as Pharaoh was about to overtake the Israelites, the pillar of cloud which was ahead of them started to move. It went between the children of Israel and the chariots of Pharaoh. It was darkness unto Pharaoh; but it was light unto Israel all night long. Pharaoh could not come near them. Then the children of Israel cried out unto the Lord.

And Moses said, "Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord" Moses stretched out his hand over the sea and the Lord caused a strong east wind to blow all night; and in the morning the people looked at the Red Sea. What do you think happened? The water was divided and there was a strip of dry land that went clear across the Red Sea. Israel went into action fast and started across. There was a wall of water on either side of them.

When the children of Israel were nearly across, God removed the cloud so Pharaoh could see them cross the sea. Pharaoh must have thought, "If they can do it, we can do it." So the Egyptians pursued after them. They were so determined to get their slaves back they didn't realize what they were doing. God looked at them through the pillar of

fire and troubled the Egyptians. The dry land got muddy and their wheels stuck in the mud. Some of the wheels came off and the horses went crazy. Everything went wrong for them. When all of Israel was safe on the other side, God told Moses to stretch forth his rod over the sea. The waters came together with a roar and the Egyptians, chariots and horses were drowned in the sea; there was not one of them that remained alive.

God can protect us just as well as He did Israel. When things look bad and there seems no way to go, ask God to help. He will provide a way. He always has.

- Brother Rudy Cover

ANSWERED PRAYERS

Part 27

Psalms 34:6, "This poor man cried, and the Lord heard him, and saved him out of all his troubles." What a marvelous testimony for the Lord. What God did for David, He can and will do for you. The Lord is able to solve any problem or trouble. None is beyond His capability. His arm is not shortened. His strength diminishes not. What appears to be a mountain to man is not even comparable to a molehill to God.

We have two additional verses in this chapter that are worthy of consideration. Psalms 34:17, "The righteous cry, and the Lord heareth, and delivereth them out of (ALL THEIR TROUBLES)" Psalms 34:19, "Many are the afflictions of the righteous; but the Lord delivereth him out of them all."

There are conditions here to having prayers answered. The first is that we be righteous. That is: we do that which is right. There is so much wrong doing today. God is not pleased with these sinful acts. He does not tolerate sin. He does recognize when we do that which is right.

The second thought in these verses is that we cry unto Him, that is: pray. We can be in trouble from which there is no human way to be delivered. Man often becomes so involved in trouble that he can not possibly extricate himself. But, if we are on praying terms with God; we have faith in Him and pray, He can deliver us from any situation.

There are many instances recorded in God's Word where men were in trouble and God delivered them. Daniel, cast into the lions' den, was in grave trouble. God delivered him from the jaws of the lions. The three Hebrew Children were in very serious trouble when they were cast into the fiery furnace. Yet, it was easy for God to deliver them unscathed from that over-fired furnace.

A man who was drafted into the army during first World War told me

the following. He and several other of his companions were witnesses of a young man, who was a conscientious objector. He would not take up arms, even in training camp. His superiors tried everything to arm that man. He would not take a gun. In their effort to scare him into obeying them, one day they took him to a remote section of the camp, where there was a closed grave and a freshly dug one. They informed him that another objector refused orders, he was shot and was buried in the closed grave. If he did not take up arms, he also would be shot and buried in the grave beside his buddy. Not knowing this was set up as a test for him, but believing that God would deliver him, he said, "Ok, if my buddy was willing to give his life rather than take up arms, I am willing to do the same thing."

They did not take his life. God delivered him out of his trouble. Why? Because he prayed to God about it and God answered his prayer.

- Brother Paul R. Myers
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THE CHURCH

I am happy today that God made it possible to set aside the first day of the week so we could worship the Lord in his sacred house; aren't you?

My mind goes back to Christ when he told Simon Peter, "...upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of Hell shall not prevail against it." Matthew 16:18. The Church must be anchored, or soon it would drift and sway away from God. The Church must have rules that we as a Christian people go by. The rules must be grounded within the Church's Anchor, too.

I am thankful that God's House has a door. A door through which we can enter to worship Him in spirit and in truth and sing praises to His Name. The Lord said in John 10:1, "...he that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber."

My Church must have an armor to put on, to keep the evil out of the Church and to keep the Spiritual fire burning within us. Our armor - Ephesians 6:14-17, "...loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; ...feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; ...taking the shield of faith, ...take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God."

I John 5:4 tells us, "...this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith." The Apostle Paul asks a question in Romans 8:35, "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?" You know, people back

in the seventeenth through nineteenth centuries suffered persecution. They died at the stake or were hanged on gallows because they tried to serve a risen Lord. Would we be willing to die for the sake of the Gospel? Nothing should separate us from the love of Christ. We should be ready at all times to go with the Lord when he calls for us.

We must take time to read the Bible. Search the scriptures daily, so when questioned about our beliefs, we can stand up for the Lord (our Master) and answer with a true and honest heart. Ephesians 6:13, "Wherefore take unto you the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand." Stand.

Let us put forth a strong effort to dress so the world knows we are a child of God. Let us strive to live towards that happy end when we can be with the Lord, Christ Jesus, in Heaven.

This poem carries a lot of meaning.

This is My Church

A Door,

into an opportunity for service,
into the most useful life,
into the best experience;
into the most hopeful future -
My Church gives me a start.

An Armory,

to get power to fight evil,
to get inspiration to keep going right,
to get an uplifting influence,
to learn how to use spiritual weapons,
to get a vision of Christ -
My Church keeps me moving.

An Anchor,

to steady me in the storm,
to keep me from the breakers,
to guide me in the strenuous life,
to hold me lest I drift away from God,
to save me in the hour of temptation -
And lead me into the harbor.

- Sister Shirley Frick
New Madison, Ohio



Happiness adds and multiplies as we divide it with others.

T.L.C.

T.L.C. (tender, loving care) is love in action. It is compassionate concern for others; you can't give it to yourself. It is often the only thing to which a sick or injured person or animal will respond. Somehow, it renews in them the will to live, because someone cares. Without it, babies do not develop properly and may even die; but with it, the glow of good health is present.

T.L.C. requires that you give of yourself, that you go beyond the call of duty to meet someone's need. If you give such care, that one in need will respond and accept you as a friend. You can't meet a spiritual need without being a friend first, a friend who truly is concerned about any need and is ready to help. A true friend will help, but not interfere. People learn first to trust us as friends; second, to trust God as our God; and third, to trust God as their own God. When we have compassion on others, we help them to take that first, very important step toward God.

The Golden Rule tells us to do unto others as we want them to do unto us. If we are in trouble, we want someone to help us; therefore, we should help others when the need is there, whether it is physical or spiritual. Tender, loving care is what the Samaritan gave to the injured man by the wayside. The priest and the Levite passed by on the other side, mercilessly ignoring the needs of the half-dead man. Which would you have done?

God used the little maid of Naaman's wife to direct him to Elisha, the prophet, for healing. God can use you to bring someone to Christ, the Great Physician, if you care enough to give of yourself. "For I have no man likeminded, who will naturally care for your state." Phil. 2:20. Paul knew Timothy was concerned, and could be depended on to care for others. Are you one whom God can depend on to care for others? Or, do you excuse yourself by saying your help isn't wanted?

"That there should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another. And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honored, all the members rejoice with it." I Cor. 12:25-26. Too often, the one who suffers, suffers alone. Those who should care, do not. The person who has never known Christ often receives more T.L.C. than the one who is already a member of the body, yet is not progressing. Why? Don't we care about those who are already a part of us? Instead of a cold-shoulder, heartless attitude toward the suffering member, try tender, loving care and see how much better the results will be.

"Nay, much more those members of the body, which seem to be more feeble, are necessary." I Cor. 12:22. Your finger is a small part of your body, comparatively weak, yet if it is injured, you take care of it. You wouldn't think of cutting it off and throwing it in the trash, unless you had no choice. Why? Because it is a necessary part of the body. One

who is weak and rather helpless is still needed. With proper care and love, the weak can become strong, but with neglect, the weakness increases until spiritual death is the result. If you are strong in faith, thank God. Then use your strength to help someone who needs it.

It is easy to have compassion on a sick animal, for we know they can't help themselves. It should be even easier to have compassion on those sick with sin, because one soul is worth more than the entire world. If someone's spiritual life or death depends on you, what will you do about it? Will you shew mercy as the Samaritan did, or will you be heartless and "holier-than-thou" as the priest and Levite were? They apparently felt it was beneath their dignity to stoop down and help the one who needed it so much.

Jesus cared when Lazarus died. He cared when the leper desired to be healed. Jesus cared when the multitudes were with Him so long without food. He spent all the years of His public ministry caring for the needs of others, not only the physical, but the spiritual. Jesus gave continually of Himself, and finally gave His life for us. He truly met the need of our hearts by providing salvation for us, and bringing us back into contact with our Heavenly Father.

Jesus said, "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." John 13:35. As His disciple, you will be able to give tender, loving care when it is needed. You won't wait to be asked; you will help when you see the need. The Samaritan didn't wait to be asked; if he had, the robbery victim would likely have died.

When you care for an injured animal with tenderness and love, the response is good. If you care for the same animal without tenderness, death may come because of your unkindness. One not progressing spiritually needs more than just a remedy for the outward signs of trouble. You must meet the need of the heart and only T.L.C. can do this. Be concerned; give your time and your love, just as Christ gives to us. "Freely ye have received; freely give."

- Sister Eileen Broadwater

PROPHECY AND FULFILLMENT

Prophecy: Isa. 11:10, And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek; and his rest shall be glorious.

Fulfillment: Rom. 15:12, And again, Esias saith, There shall be a root of Jesse, and he that shall rise to reign over the Gentiles; in him shall the Gentiles trust.

Prophecy: Isa. 52:15, So shall he sprinkle many nations; the kings shall shut their mouths at him; for that which had not been told them shall they see; and that which they had not heard shall they consider.

Fulfillment: Rom. 15:21, But as it is written, To whom he was not spoken of, they shall see; and they that have not heard shall understand.

Prophecy: Isa. 29:14, Therefore, behold, I will proceed to do a marvelous work among this people, even a marvelous work and a wonder; for the wisdom of their wise men shall perish, and the understanding of their prudent men shall be hid.

Fulfillment: I Cor. 1:19, For it is written, I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and will bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent.

Prophecy: Isa. 64:4, For since the beginning of the world men have not heard, nor perceived by the ear, neither hath the eye seen, O God, beside thee, what hath prepared for him that waiteth for him.

Fulfillment: I Cor. 2:9, But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him.

Prophecy: Job 5:13, He taketh the wise in their own craftiness; and the counsel of the froward is carried headlong.

Fulfillment: I Cor. 3:19, For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, He taketh the wise in their own craftiness.

Prophecy: Psalms 94:11, The Lord knoweth the thoughts of men, that they are vanity.

Fulfillment: I Cor. 3:20, And again, The Lord knoweth the thoughts of the wise, that they are vain.

Prophecy: Deut. 25:4, Thou shalt not muzzle the ox when he treadeth out the corn.

Fulfillment: I Cor. 9:9, For it is written in the law of Moses, Thou shalt not muzzle the mouth of the ox that treadeth out the corn. Doeth God take care for oxen?

Prophecy: Ex. 32:6, And they rose up early on the morrow, and offered burnt offerings, and brought peace offerings; and the people sat down to eat and to drink, and rose up to play.

Fulfillment: I Cor. 10:7, Neither be ye idolaters, as were some of them; as it is written, The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play.

Prophecy: Isa. 28:11, For with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people.

Fulfillment: I Cor. 14:21, In the law it is written, with men of other tongues and other lips will I speak unto this people; and yet for all that will they not hear me, saith the Lord.

Prophecy: Isa. 53:5, But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

Fulfillment: I Cor. 15:3, For I delivered unto you first of all that which I

also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures.

Prophecy: Lev. 21:11-12, And I will set my tabernacle among you; and my soul shall not abhor you. And I will walk among you, and will be your God, and ye shall be my people.

Fulfillment: II Cor. 6:16, And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

Prophecy: Isa. 52:11, Depart ye, depart ye, go ye out from thence, touch no unclean thing; go ye out of the midst of her; be ye clean, that bear the bessels of the Lord.

Fulfillment: II Cor. 6:17-18, Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.

- Brother W. E. Bashor

867 Lorna Dr., Glen Ellen, Calif. 95442

QUEEN ESTHER'S GREAT COURAGE

Part 5

In the last article, Queen Esther, with great fear, yet with the courage of a queen decided to go unto the King to intercede for her people. Her determination and resolution was, "I will venture into the king's presence. If I perish, I perish."

The Queen put aside her clothes which were worn during fasting and put on her royal apparel, that she might make more of an impression on the King, when she addressed him. She does not esteem her high estate which was placed upon her by the King. But she goes into his presence expecting her doom with feelings between hope and fear. We are told by the Apocryphal author and Josephus, that her countenance was cheerful and very amiable but her heart was in anguish.

As Esther, the Queen, approached the King, she obtained favor in his sight. When the King saw Esther the queen, he protected her from the law, by holding out to her the golden scepter. She very thankfully touched it, thereby presenting herself to him as an humble petitioner.

The King, in his friendliness and liberality asked, "What is thy request? It shall be even given thee to the half of the kingdom." Did the King really know what it meant to give her even the half of the kingdom?

Esther came to a proud, imperious man. We come to the God of Love and Grace. She was not called; we are. The Spirit says, "Come." And

the Bride says, "Come." She had a law against her; we have a promise, many promises, in our favor. "Ask, and it shall be given you. . ." She had no friend to introduce her or to intercede for her, on the contrary, he, who was the king's favorite, was now her enemy. But, we have an Advocate with the Father, in Whom He is well pleased. "Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of Grace. . . ."

The request, the queen, made at that time was that the King would please come to a banquet, which she had prepared for him. He was to bring Haman along with him. King Ahasuerus came readily and ordered Haman to come along. There, he renewed his kind inquiry, "What is thy petition?" and his generous promise that it would be granted. "Even to the half of the kingdom," was a proverbial expression, by which he assured her that he would deny her nothing within reason.

Haman, in whom pride and wrath had so much influence, was puffed up with the honor of being invited to Queen Esther's feast. He was joyful and glad of heart. But when he saw Mordecai in the king's gate and, "that he stood not up, nor moved for him, he was full of indignation against Mordecai." By this, Haman was so enraged that he could and would have gladly drawn his sword and hopefully seen him fall with all the other Jews.

His meditating and revenge was assisted by his friends. For the pleasing of his fancy, they advised him to set up a gallows already, so when the warrant was signed by the king, there would be no delay of the execution. To this, Haman agreed. He had the gallows made and set up. It was fifty cubits high, for the greater disgrace of Mordecai, and to make him a spectacle to anyone passing by.

- To be continued
Brother Clarence R. Gehr
Dallas Center, Iowa 50063

SATAN'S PUBLIC AUCTION

Satan had an auction sale
In the dark of night,
All his tools were laying there,
What an awful sight!
Hatred, envy, jealousy,
Malice and deceit,
Pride and sensuality -
List too long to write!

But apart from all the rest,
Wedge-shaped, shiny-worn,
Was the tool, discouragement -
Sharper than a thorn!
Satan, why the price so high?
Such a simple tool.
Satan smiled in sly reply,
"Works on any soul.

Many were the tools I had,
Some I could not use
Till I'd try discouragement."
He began to muse,
"Many members of the Church
Have I used it on!
Harder for the young I'd search -
They're so easy won!"

As I walked away from there
Empty-handed still,
Full I felt and knelt in prayer,
"Help us do Thy will.
When we feel discouragement
All around about,
Send us some encouragement
Faith beyond a doubt.

When amid the world we go
-Sin on every hand,
Always warn us of the foe
Lest he take command."
Satan's public auction sale
Let us learn a lot!
May the lesson linger on
Ne'er to be forgot.

- Brother Jan Heisey



PRAYER POWER

The wisest words man speaks to man,
However far he's trod,
Will never match the power of
The smallest prayer to God.

- Leonard Guardino

NEWS ITEMS

NOTICE

I wish to thank all for their prayers and encouragement during these months of adjustment to editorial duties. Also I want to thank those who have contributed articles for the Monitor. It is good that few selected articles have been needed so far. Keep up the good work.

As the new year draws nearer, the bulk of our subscriptions will be expiring. Please renew as soon as possible. If any changes in your address has occurred but has not been reported to the Editor please do so, so your copy will not be miscarried. If you are not sure about the date your subscription expires, a note to the Editor will secure the information.

Also any additions, deletions or corrections to be made in the Ministerial or Deacon lists, the Directory of information, or the location of Church Houses for the February 1st issue would be sent to the Editor by January 1st, so the list will be as accurate as possible.

With your prayers, subscriptions and articles, the Bible Monitor can be greatly used by God. Please, do your part.

- The Editor

NORTHERN LANCASTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

The Northern Lancaster County Congregation enjoyed another revival with Elder Paul Reed, the evangelist, from Sept. 15 through Sept. 30, 1975. The Spirit-filled messages he delivered while here were truly uplifting.

The result of these meetings was that four stood for Christ and were baptized on Sunday afternoon, Oct. 12th.

We had good attendance throughout the meetings.

Since our last report, one Sister was received by letter.

- Sister Susanna Johns, Cor.

MARRIAGE BLOCHER-MOORE

Sis. Joyce Blocher and Bro. Terry Moore were united in holy matrimony, September 27, 1975. She is the daughter of Bro. & Sis. Paul Blocher of Union, Ohio; he is the son of Mrs. Audrey Moore of Halifax, Pennsylvania and Theodore Moore of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. They are now making their home at R. 2, Halifax, Pennsylvania.

OBITUARY

KEVIN JOHNSON

Kevin Jay Johnson was born in Detroit, Michigan on Feb. 22, 1958 and departed this life, by accidental drowning, July 23, 1975 at West Unity, Ohio. Kevin was the oldest son of Sister Patricia (Pat) Johnson who survives along with his two younger brothers, Kirk and Kyle all of West Unity, Ohio. He was also the grandson of Bro. Herbert and Sis. Luluvene Yates, West Unity, Ohio; the nephew of Bro. Larry Yates, Detroit, Michigan; Chester Yates, Alvordton, Ohio; and the great-grandson of Sister Ada Whitman, West Millgrove, Ohio. There are many relatives, friends and neighbors to mourn his death.

Elders Harley Flory, Dean St. John and William Carpenter were the ministering brethren at the funeral of our beloved Kevin. Interment at the Floral Grove Cemetery near West Unity, Ohio.

THANK YOU

We, the family of Kevin Johnson cannot express in word, the language of our hearts for the balm of compassion given us from those who came; those who prayed; those who expressed their love in words, in cards, in acts and deeds of loving kindness; who saw our bleeding hearts as their very own and comforted us in our grief in the loss of our beloved Kevin. With grateful hearts, we thank the many Brethren and Sisters of the Household of Faith for your congregational memorial love gifts. We are so unworthy but we praise Our Lord Jesus Christ, for your charity of divine love in our every behalf.

We ask for your prayers, and that the God of all Comfort will have Glory and Honor to His Holy Name as we walk with Him in this valley of sorrow.

- The family of Kevin J. Johnson



BEWARE

Lest thou Forget the Lord.
Of the Word of the Lord to do it.
Of Wine, the Symbol of Earthly Pleasure.
Of the Wiles of Self-Righteousness.
Of the World of Covetousness.
Of the Wickedness of Wicked Men.
Of the Wisdom of Man.
Of Wrestling the Scriptures.

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Paul R. Myers
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BIBLE MONITOR

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DECEMBER 15, 1975

NO. 24

"For the faith once for all delivered to the saints."

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and
Scriptural in practice.

OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all
the world and preach the gospel

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

THE HEAVENLY STRANGER

No warm, downy pillow His sweet head pressed;
No soft silken garments His fair form dressed;
He lay in a manger,
This Heavenly Stranger,
The precious Lord Jesus, the wonderful Child.

No jubilant clang of rejoicing bell
The glorious news to the world did tell;
But angels from glory
Sang sweetly the story
Of Bethlehem's Stranger, the Saviour of men.

Thou Heavenly Stranger, so gentle and mild,
Though born in a manger, the Father's own Child,
We'll worship before Thee
And praise and adore Thee,
And sing the glad story again and again.

— Ada Blenkhorn

OTHERS

We are now in the midst of the Christmas season. It is a season of selfishness. Despite all the talk about the giving of gifts and the symbols of the holiday, still most are thinking of what they may receive. The children spend many hours looking at the mail-order catalog, their "wish-book", listing their wants and dreaming about the toys they hope to get. Unfortunately it is not only the children but adults, as well, who make their lists and dream their dreams. Many adults go beyond this selfish part of the celebration of Christmas; many celebrate with eating, drinking and merry-making that proves not only dangerous to themselves but to others as well. This is hardly the right spirit of celebration. The main concern seems to be what we want, where we go and what we have to eat during this season. This popular celebration of Christmas leaves much to be desired. Especially left out are any thoughts for others.

Would there be a Christmas if there had not been a giving for others in the first place? If a Gracious, Merciful and Loving God had not first given His Son for others - for us - there would be no Christmas. This giving for others is illustrated in Philippians 2:6-8. "Who (Jesus Christ), being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross." When we have a visitor come to our home, it is manifest that he come from someplace else to be our visitor. Thus the Babe of Bethlehem came from Heaven, not as a visitor, but for our

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benefit. He laid aside His Glory and put on flesh and blood, not for His Own sake; but for ours. There was nothing this world could give Him. He, as Creator, had power over the world like the potter does over his clay. Yet, He not only felt the pains and sorrows of flesh and blood; He tasted death - the death of the accursed on the cross. "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you." John 15:13-14. Jesus' ministry was ever directed toward helping others, both physically and Spiritually.

Forty days after His Resurrection, Jesus ascended back to the "Ivory Palaces". There He would resume His Place at the Father's Right Hand. But while on earth He left an example for His disciples of all ages to follow. His disciples are to Spiritually walk "in His Steps". His ministry had been for the benefit of others so the lives of His disciples, you and I, are to be beneficial to others. In the evening before His betrayal, Jesus instructed His followers, "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." John 13:35. Love and essentially love's results would be the sure sign of those who claimed to follow the Son of God. This love was not to be merely an emotion but would produce loving action. "...let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith." Gal. 6:10. We need never apologize for doing good deeds for the Brethren, although we are to do good to all men, our first duty remains toward our fellow believers. These good deeds should not be confined to one short season of the year. Our entire life should be a reflection of Our Lord's life of service in behalf of others. Jesus said, "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven. Matt. 5:16.

During this Christmas season, the very way you celebrate this holiday will show whether it is a selfish or selfless season to you. If you use this time as a gathering of gifts, as a time of feasting or as a time of merry-making, Christmas has become a selfish season for you. The Babe of the manger is the most forgotten person of Christmas. If you do not follow His example of doing for others, He is forgotten in your celebration of the beginning of His earthly ministry. If your holiday is centered around the pagan ceremonies that are associated with Christmas, you have deserted Christ for a superstition. Think on the reason we take note of Christmas: Jesus coming for the good of others. Then think of how you will celebrate this holiday. Is it for self; or is it for others?

OTHERS

Lord, let me live from day to day,
In such a self-forgotful way,
That even when I kneel to pray,
My pray'r shall be for OTHERS.

Help me in all the work I do,
To ever be sincere and true,
And know that all I'd do for you,
Must needs be done for OTHERS.

Let "Self" be crucified and slain,
And buried deep, nor rise again;
And may all efforts be in vain,
Unless they be for OTHERS.

And when my work on earth is done,
And my new work in heav'n's begun,
May I forget the crown I've won,
While thinking still of OTHERS.

— Charles D. Meigs

ANSWERED PRAYERS

Part 28

II Chronicles 33:12-13, "And when he was in affliction, he besought the Lord his God, and humbled himself greatly before the God of his Fathers, and prayed unto him: and he was intreated of him, and heard his supplication and brought him again to Jerusalem into his kingdom. Then Manasseh knew that the Lord he was God."

Webster says, "affliction" means: pain, distress, trouble, misery, misfortune, wretchedness, etc.

Reading ahead of the above text, we find that Manasseh was bound and carried captive to Babylon. Just what the nature of his affliction in Babylon was, the Bible does not here state. Whatever, it was, without a doubt, grievous to bear. The severity of his affliction was trying enough to humble Manasseh.

The Bible states he humbled himself "greatly" before the God of his fathers. God has a purpose even in afflictions. Maybe, it is to humble us. In that great humility, he acknowledged his weakness and his inability to help himself in his affliction. He did the right thing. He prayed unto God.

The Bible states God heard him. God answered his prayer. He freed him from Babylon and brought him again to Jerusalem, into his kingdom. Through this deliverance to Jerusalem, Manasseh knew that it was God who heard and answered his prayer.

If we never were ill or had trouble or afflictions, we would be weak in the faith. Trouble forces us to pray. Answered prayers reveal that there

is a prayer-hearing and prayer-answering God and that He is good to His people. Answered prayers should increase our faith in God.

Even with God answering his prayer, Manasseh was a wicked ruler. Read the entire thirty-third chapter of II Chronicles.

God answers our prayers because He loves us. We, in turn, should show our love to Him; by worshipping Him in Spirit and in truth, and by keeping His commandments, which is evidence of our love for Him.

Brother Paul R. Myers
Box 117, Greentown, Ohio 44630

CHILDREN'S PAGE

DELIVERANCE FOR ISRAEL

Exodus 15:1-27

The Egyptians were drowned in the Red Sea. Horses and chariots, mighty men with their bows and shields and spears - the best that Pharaoh had - were covered with water - drowned and destroyed in just a few moments of time. Pharaoh had gone too far and God destroyed him. At that time Egypt was the greatest nation on earth. Never again would Egypt be anything but a small power. Egypt had made slaves of Israel and had driven them to work with cruel whips. Now God's people were free! How would you feel to be a slave one day and free the next? I'm sure you would be happy; and that was how the children of Israel felt.

The children of Israel made a song about their deliverance. They sang it unto the Lord and said, "I will sing unto the Lord, for he hath triumphed gloriously: the horse and his rider hath he thrown into the sea." It was a long song: all about going through the Red Sea: salvation to Israel and destruction to Pharaoh and his army. You can read this song in Exodus 15:1-19.

They praised God; if ever the children of Israel were united in thanking God, it was then. Miriam was a sister of Moses and Aaron. She took a timbrel in her hand. (A timbrel is a little drum made to beat time to music.) All the women went out with Miriam with timbrels and they sang and danced unto the Lord. They really had a celebration. Everyone was happy and excited about how God had delivered them in such a wonderful way. God had opened the sea for them so they could go through on dry land. What a marvelous thing to experience. Wouldn't you like to have been there?

It is estimated there were three million Israelites that went out of Egypt. How were all these people going to find enough water in the

desert to drink? They weren't thinking about that, on this great day when God had delivered them. This was not a day to worry. They had plenty for today. Why worry about tomorrow? Besides, wouldn't God, who so miraculously saved them from the Egyptians, be able to provide for them? If only they would remember this day; but they were just like people today. Just as soon things don't go just to suit them, they start to complain.

They started out into the wilderness following the cloudy pillar that was to lead them to the promised land. After going for three days, they found nothing to drink. They, finally, came to a place called Marah. Here they found water; but, when the people tried to drink, the water was bitter. Now, they were thirsty and had water; but it wasn't fit to drink! Do you know what they did? They murmured against Moses and said, "What shall we drink?"; just as if it were all Moses' fault. But Moses had the answer. What do you think he did? He cried unto the Lord; and the Lord showed him a tree, which, when Moses put it in the water, the water became sweet so it was good to drink.

God is the answer in every time of need; He will always help. We can learn how to live by reading about Israel. We should not complain when we have trials. We should tell God about it. If we trust Him; He will provide.

If God has delivered you from sin; you know how happy you were that day. But what about now? Do you ever complain?

Brother Rudy Cover

NO ROOM IN THE INN

Matthew 1 and Luke 1 and 2

"...Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favor with God. And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name Jesus. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David."

Mary, a virgin, engaged to Joseph of the house of David, was troubled in her heart when the angel Gabriel came to her with this announcement. She was not able to understand, but she placed herself entirely in God's hands. "And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word." Joseph also was given the announcement that Christ was to be born to Mary. He did as God directed in the dream, and took Mary to be his wife as he had previously planned.

The time came that Joseph and Mary were required to leave

Nazareth and journey to Bethlehem. It was tax time, and it was necessary for them to go to their own city. It was not a convenient time for Mary, for her first child was soon to be born. This journey was necessary for another reason: Bethlehem was to be the birthplace of Christ!

"And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn." An angel announced to the shepherds that a Saviour was born in Bethlehem. This was Mary's firstborn, the child she laid in the manger. The birthplace was lowly, but the welcome was a royal one, for a heavenly host suddenly appeared and praised God.

When the angels had returned into Heaven, the shepherds desired to see what had come to pass. After seeing Mary, Joseph, and the Holy Child, Jesus, lying in the manger, they couldn't keep the news to themselves. They didn't question Christ's divinity because of the lowly surroundings; but spread the news that the Saviour was born! How about you? Have you praised God and rejoiced because of Christ's birth, as the angels and shepherds did?

Christ's birth was only the beginning of His life on earth. The Babe in the manger became the Teacher of the Gospel, and finally the Man on the Cross. He gave His life so that salvation would be available to all. We are bought with a great price, and rightfully, we belong to Christ whether we acknowledge Him or not. He gave His all for us; we should give our all to Him.

Does Christ have His rightful place in your heart and life? Or, are you like the inn: so full of everything else that you have no room for Christ? Many who saw Christ, who conversed with Him and who ate with Him, still refused to give the Saviour a place in their hearts and lives. Some even sought to kill Him. Are you like them, or have you accepted Him as your Saviour and Lord? It is truly a privilege to accept Christ, not just a duty. There is a penalty for rejecting Him: you must pay for your own sins by eternal death.

Christ did not grow up to be an ordinary man, for He was divine, the only begotten Son of God. He came to this earth for a special purpose: to give His life for you and me. Remember, HE GAVE His life; no one took it from Him. He gave it for YOU! He wants to save your soul, to bless you with peace and the joy of knowing your sins are forgiven.

The innkeeper had to send Mary and Joseph away because the inn was full and there was no way to make room. But you don't have to send Christ away, even though your heart is full of sin. He can cleanse your heart so you will have room for Him, if you want Him to. Won't you open your heart to the Saviour now?

Sister Eileen Broadwater
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BE STRONG IN THE LORD

Ephesians 6:10-12, "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places."

The first part of this Ephesian letter carries the theme of Christ and of His Church as His own body. As we receive its spiritual message our own hearts respond with thankfulness and praise to the "glory of his grace." Eph. 1:6.

Following the theme, the writer is led to the Christian home. Here home units of the assembly of Saints are lovingly and firmly instructed and exhorted. Only by the Holy Spirit's guidance could he say so much in so short a space.

His "Finally, my brethren" is an appeal to men of faith to be strong. What Christian wife, indeed, but wishes her husband to be strong in body and especially in the faith of Christ?

The Apostle Paul had a great vision of the Paradise of God, of which he might only tell in part. II Cor. 12:4. With such heavenly light in his soul he could speak knowingly of the great forces of evil arrayed against Christ and His own, "which are in the world." John 17:11.

This twelfth verse is a condensed account of the organized forces of Satan, working in the courts and in the rulers of the country. Behind their persecutors, the Christian must be conscious of these unseen spirits and powers. They should love their enemies, knowing their hearts are darkened with sin, which accounts for the darkness of this world and spiritual wickedness in high places. Many Christian Martyrs followed their Lord in praying for their executors.

But, the wrestling against the powers of darkness, the "withstanding", and the standing in an evil day, is a very personal matter. The battle starts and must be won, first in the heart and mind of the follower and disciple of Christ. Today's Christian must also be over conscious of unseen powers of darkness working behind the scenes to tempt and to deceive, "if it were possible the very elect of God." We desperately need the light of God's Word on our pathway.

The Apostle Paul gives his own, personal experience of fighting this battle in his heart and mind. Romans 7, finds him going down to defeat again and again. He describes this in all honesty and candor. But, "Romans" is the work of a seasoned Christian, with many victories and deliverances already to his record. It is thought to have been written 56 A.D. about twenty years or more after his conversion. In Romans 8, he shows that his victories were all through and by the Spirit of God.

Romans 12:1-2, describes his part in presenting his body to God as a willing sacrifice in a separated life.

His doctrine is, "...as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive." "...not I, but Christ liveth in me." "Christ" the "...name which is above every name," etc.

Christ had carefully foretold the trials of His followers. He instructed them, when persecuted to "Rejoice ye in that day, and leap for joy: for, behold, your reward is great in heaven..." To this end He instructed them to ask and receive "...that your joy may be full." He even gave a simple model prayer for our learning.

Many wrestlings are a part of the Christian's personal life. We all come to that place described by Christ, "...the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." Victory is won by faith and by the Spirit of God.

Today's Christian finds his faith attacked and seduced in every conceivable way, many unknown to the Christians of Paul's day. In my own lifetime I have witnessed the invasions of Satan into the privacy of the home; the mail-box, the telephone, daily papers and worldly periodicals, radio, television, swift communications and travel with many attending evils. An affluent age of plenty, with a government's wide generosity, allows Satan to present the worldly life in all its gay and seductive forms, right in the home.

May I say here that our own human nature is as weak and utterly unable to win any victories, as was Paul's? Many supposed Christians are going down into defeat. Many backsliders say, "I found I could not live the Christian life."

Putting on the whole armour of God involves decisions on our part. They are decisions for Truth, Righteousness, preparation and readiness to spread the Gospel of Peace, Faith, Salvation, the Word of God. It is a gracious, protective and assertive armor indeed.

"Praying always with all prayers and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints." Eph. 6:18.

James D. Cover

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DIVINE RICHES

Riches of Mercy. Eph. 2:4

Riches of Grace. Eph. 1:7

Riches of Goodness. Rom. 2:4

Riches of Glory. Phil. 4:10

Riches of God. Rom. 11:33

There is a mine of wealth in these few passages of Scripture.

REPENTANCE

I want to write about true repentance and conversion. We can read alot about repentance in the Bible.

I was converted when I was fourteen years old. The Lord called me while I was in a revival meeting; I felt lost and in need of a Saviour, so I made a stand at the church. But I knew that no church could save me, so I came to the Lord and called upon the Lord to save me and forgive me. I began to pray and cry for the Lord to save me for I was lost. I had to pray more than once. The the Lord showed me my sins that I had to confess. It seemed a little hard to go tell my folks I had done wrong and to ask them to forgive me. But when I did, a great joy came into my heart. I had to confess before God would forgive me. Then I prayed again to the Lord, all at once a great change took place in my life. God forgave me and changed my life; He put a new heart and spirit within and gave me peace with God. I could hear the still small voice. Now, if I would have died I would have been saved. I know that God saved me. I had some from death to life. I had a real experience with the Lord. That was the happiest day of my life, knowing I had found the Lord.

The Bible says, "Seek ye the Lord while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near." After I repented, I was baptized. Many think if they are baptized and join a church, that will save them, but God says, "Repent, and be baptized, every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ..."

"Jesus saith..., I am the way, the truth and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but my me." Jesus said that He is the Way. "...Whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved." We must have true repentance to be born again. Jesus preached repentance; John the Baptist preached it; Peter preached it; Paul preached it. It is to be preached today, but we don't hear much preaching on repentance these days.

John the Baptist preached "...Repent ye for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." Jesus invites us to come to Him. He says "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." "...Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven." "...The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel." "I tell you. Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." "Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out..." "...Then hath God also to Gentiles granted repentance unto iife." "Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance..." John the Baptist refused to baptize those who were not sincere, "but when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees come to his baptism, he said unto them, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance." "and

this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God and Jesus Christ, whom thou has sent." Jesus said, "... I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die." "Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins." "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." If we don't confess our sins; how can we expect God to forgive us? We have to be born again. To be born of the Spirit takes a change of heart and it is only God that can change our heart and life and put a new heart and Spirit within. God knows who His children are and who wants to do right.

You, who are lost in sins and have never found the Saviour, don't know what it is to have a real experience with the Lord. You can't have this experience unless you repent, confess your sins and surrender all to the Lord. You must give up the things of this world and look to God to be converted. We have to give all to Him and have a desire to live for Him.

God has promised to be with us to the end of the world. May God help us to live for Him and overcome these evil things so we can be in that Heavenly Home when this life is over.

So many are taking the wrong way. They know it is wrong; but, because others do it, they do too. My desire is to live for Him, so when life is over I can have "...an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens."

May God bless these few words to help someone else.

Sister Rebecca Beck
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Archbold, Ohio



SEVEN INDISPENSABLE THINGS

Without Shedding of Blood is no Remission. Heb. 9:22.
Without Faith it is Impossible to Please God. Heb. 11:6.
Without Holiness no Man can See the Lord. Heb. 12:14.
Without Works Faith is Dead. James 2:26.
Without Love I am Nothing. I Cor. 13:1-3.
Without Chastisement ye are not Sons. Heb. 12:8.
Without Me (Jesus) ye can do Nothing. John 15:5.

THE CHRISTMAS GUEST

It happened one day at the year's white end -
Two neighbors called on an old-time friend;
And they found his shop, so meager and mean,
Made gay with a thousand boughs of green.
And Conrad was sitting with face ashine,
When he suddenly stopped as he stitched a twine:
And said, "Old friends, at dawn today,
When the cock was crowing the night away,
The Lord appeared in a dream to me,
And said, 'I am coming your Guest to be!'
So I've been busy with feet astir,
Strewing my shop with branches of fir.
The table is spread and the kettle is shined,
And over the rafters the holly is twined.
And now I will wait for my Lord to appear.
And listen closely so I will hear
His step as He nears my humble place,
As I open the door and look in His face."

So his friends went home - left Conrad alone
For this was the happiest day he had known.
For, long since, his family had passed away,
And Conrad had spent a sad Christmas Day.
But he knew with the Lord as his Christmas guest,
This Christmas would be the dearest and best.
And he listened with only joy in his heart,
And with every sound he would rise with a start;
And look for the Lord to be standing there
In answer to his earnest prayer.
So he ran to the window after hearing a sound,
But all that he saw on the snow-covered ground,
Was a shabby beggar whose shoes were torn
And all of his clothes were ragged and worn.
So Conrad was touched and went to the door
And said, "Your feet must be frozen and sore,
But I have some shoes in my shop for you
And a coat that will keep you warmer, too."
So with grateful heart the man went away,
But as Conrad noticed the time of day
He wondered what made the dear Lord so late;
And how much longer he'd have to wait.

When he heard a knock and ran to the door
But it was only a stranger once more.
A bent old crone with a shawl of black,
A bundle of faggots piled on her back.
She asked for only a place to rest,
But that was reserved for Conrad's Great Guest.
But her voice seemed to plead, "Don't send me away,
Let me rest for awhile on Christmas Day."
So Conrad brewed her a steaming cup
And told her to sit at the table and sup.
But after she left he was filled with dismay
For he saw that the hours were passing away;
And the Lord had not come like He said He would,
And Conrad felt sure he had misunderstood.

When out of the stillness he heard a cry,
"Please, help me and tell me where am I."
So again he opened a friendly door,
And stood disappointed as twice before.
It was only a child who had wandered away
And was lost from her family on Christmas Day.
Again Conrad's heart was heavy and sad
But he knew he could make this little girl glad.
So he called her in and wiped her tears
And quieted all her childish fears.
And he led her back to her home once more,
But as he entered his own darkened door;
He knew that the Lord was not coming today,
For the hours of Christmas had passed away.

So he went to his room and knelt down to pray;
And he said, "Dear Lord why did you delay?
What kept you from calling on me?
For I wanted so much your face to see?"
When soft in the silence a voice he heard,
"Lift up your head for I kept my word.
Three times I came to your lonely door;
For I was the beggar with cold bruised feet;
I was the woman you gave to eat;
And I was the child on the homeless street!"

— Selected by Sister Viola Broadwater



If you do not wish to trade with the devil, keep out of his shop.

OBITUARY

EDWARD BEEMAN

Edward Frederick Beeman, son of Henry Thomas and Mary Ann (Clark) Beeman, was born June 13, 1902 in Garrett Co., Maryland and departed this life August 25, 1975 at Memorial Hospital, Cumberland, Maryland.

Bro. Beeman lived in and around the vicinity of Cumberland, Maryland for about fifty years and was a retired Kelly-Springfield Tire Company employee.

He was a member of the Broadwater Chapel Dunkard Brethren Church and served as deacon for forty-four years. He was of a meek and quiet spirit, and will be missed by all who knew him.

On November 29, 1924 he was married to Della Broadwater who survives. Also surviving are five sons; Frederick and Donald of Lavale, Maryland, Everett of Geneva, Ohio, Colin of Greenbelt, Maryland, and Steven, at home, two daughters; Mrs. Charles (Mary Catherine) Easton, Colmer Manor, Maryland and Mrs. Kenneth (Lucille) Taylor, Laurel, Maryland, two brothers; George of Westernport and Oscar of Lonaconing, Maryland, four sisters; Mrs. Clara Hacker, Lonaconing, Maryland, Mrs. Effie Layton, Barton, Maryland, Mrs. Mary Shriver, Moscow, Maryland, Mrs. Blanche Kluvhn, Pekin, Maryland, also nineteen grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

There's an open gate
at the end of the road
Through which each must go alone,
and there in a light we cannot see
Our Father claims His own;
Beyond the gate our loved one
finds happiness and rest
and there is comfort
In the thought
That a loving God knows best.

Funeral services were held August 27, 1975 from Hafer Chapel of the Hills, Lavale, Maryland with Elder James Kegerreis and Elder Jacob Ness officiating. Final resting place in Rest Lawn Memorial Gardens.



Better Than Jewels

I would rather be adorned by beauty of character than by jewels. Jewels are the gift of fortune, while character comes from within. - Plautus.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR JANUARY

Jan. 4— Cyrus Orders Jerusalem Rebuilt. Ezra 1:1-11; 2:-64-70

Jan. 11— The Foundation of the Temple Laid. Ezra 3:1-13

Jan. 18— The Work Stopped for Fifteen Years. Ezra 4 1-24

Jan. 25— The Temple Completed. Ezra 6:1-22

QUESTIONS:

(1) What caused Cyrus, King of Persia, to be so concerned about building the temple at Jerusalem for the Jews? Ezra 1:1,2

(2) What was the first thing that was built in rebuilding the temple? Ezra 3:2,3

(3) How did the adversaries of the Jews cause the work to cease in building the temple? Ezra 4:13-16

(4) Why was the building of the temple allowed to continue? Ezra 6:1-7

(5) What decree did King Darius make against anyone who would try to interfere in building the temple? Ezra 6:11.

NEWS ITEMS

QUINTER, KANSAS

We just completed a ten-day revival meeting with Elder Hayes Reed as our evangelist. We had good attendance throughout the meetings and the weather was grand.

Bro. Reed preached the Word with power, which penetrated into the hearts of the listeners. As a result, three precious souls decided to follow Jesus and were baptized. Their salvation seems real as they rejoice in their Saviour. Pray for their continual growth in Him.

We were happy to have three visiting ministers, besides Bro. Reed, to bring us the messages during our Love Feast services.

May we all attain the deeper depths and higher heights through Christ our Lord.

Sister Ethel Whitmer, Cor.

DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR JANUARY, 1976

COME

Memory Verse, Matt. 25:13

Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh.

Thurs. 1 - Phil. 3:1-21

Fri. 2 - Matt. 25:31-46

Sat. 3 - Matt. 25:31-46

Memory Verse, Matt. 25:31

When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory:

Sun. 4 - Matt. 26:1-25

Mon. 5 - Matt. 26:26-46

Tues. 6 - Matt. 26:47-75

Wed. 7 - Matt. 27:1-38

Thurs. 8 - Matt. 27:39-66

Fri. 9 - Matt. 28:1-20

Sat. 10 - Mark 1:1-31

Memory Verse, Matt. 25:34

Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:

Sun. 11 - Mark 2:1-28

Mon. 12 - Mark 3:1-35

Tues. 13 - Mark 4:1-20

Wed. 14 - Mark 4:21-41

Thurs. 15 - Mark 5:1-20

Fri. 16 - Mark 5:21-43

Sat. 17 - Mark 6:1-29

Memory Verse, Matt. 26:64

Jesus saith unto him, Thou hast said: nevertheless I say

unto you, Hereafter shall ye see the Son of Man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven.

Sun. 18 - Mark 6:30-56

Mon. 19 - Mark 7:1-30

Tues. 20 - Mark 8:22-38

Wed. 21 - Mark 9:1-29

Thurs. 22 - Mark 10:1-31

Fri. 23 - Mark 10:32-52

Sat. 24 - Mark 11:1-33

Memory Verse, Matt. 27:40

And saying, Thou that destroyest the temple, and buildest it in three days, save thyself. If thou be the Son of God, come down from the cross.

Sun. 25 - Mark 12:1-27

Mon. 26 - Mark 12:28-44

Tues. 27 - Mark 13:1-37

Wed. 28 - Mark 14:1-21

Thurs. 29 - Mark 14:22-52

Fri. 30 - Mark 14:53-72

Sat. 31 - Mark 15:1-47

Memory Verse, Mark 1:17

And Jesus said unto them, Come ye after me, and I will make you to become fishers of men.

Mark 8:34

And when he had called the people unto him with his disciples also, he said unto them, Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.



